Malaysia Message

SINGAPORE
FEBRUARY—MARCH
1941

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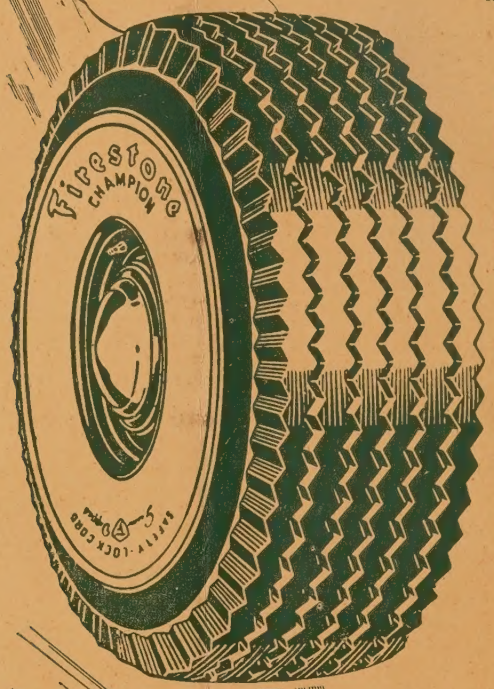

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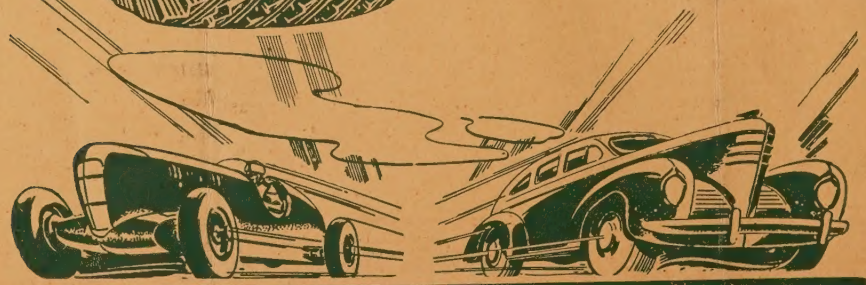

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No longer, asserts the author, can problems which have a strong social interest be relegated to an optional appendix which Christianity may choose to ignore.

In this "theological preface to social action" Mr. Bennett, well known as one of the younger leaders in social and religious thought, lays bare many of the evils infecting our day. He outlines the function that the church must play in the present crisis, if it is to survive. He faces facts bravely and with optimism. He is not afraid to attack ideas that have wide credence among thinking people. And he does not stop with describing the conditions that exist—he indicates a way out. As a constructive attempt to solve a problem which contains elements of the greatest peril to Christianity, Mr. Bennett's book merits the attention of every thoughtful person.

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METHODIST BOOK ROOM

48 CANNING RISE : SINGAPORE

IN THIS ISSUE

Miss Louisa Lambert is on the staff of the Methodist Girls' School, Singapore. Together with Miss Hazel Depler she took a trip to Kapit last December and gives us in this issue her impressions of Sarawak. Miss Lambert is a first-term missionary; after serving for a few months at Taiping she has been stationed in Singapore.

The Contributing Editors have been chosen by the Editor, in consultation with the Bishop, to assist him in being responsible for definite departments which are covered by this magazine.

Miss Dorothy Moreton is on the staff of the A.C.S., Penang, and contributes the page for "Our Boys and Girls"; Mr. G. S. Arumugan, is on the staff of the A.C.S., Klang, and as Young Peoples Secretary of the Conference he is responsible for the Epworth League news; Miss Eva I. Nelson, one of the Principals of the Malaya Methodist Theological College and one of the Religious Education Secretaries, furnishes the items concerning Religious Education; Rev. Burr Baughman, pastor of the Wesley Church, Malacca, as Chairman of the Conference Committee on Public Morals, furnishes a page on that committee's activities; Mr. T. R. Doraisamy, on the staff of the A.C.S., Singapore, is our School Editor; and Mr. Lee Choon Eng, Principal of the A.C.S., Telok Anson, has just joined our staff. As Conference Lay Leader he will contribute items and articles concerning the Methodist Laymen.

THE MALAYSIA MESSAGE

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1941

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Mar. 3 Wesley Church, Singapore, Dinner.

Mar. 25 Scouts—Inter-troop Swimming Competition, Ipoh.

Mar. 31—Apr. 2 Inter-Church Youth Meetings, Singapore.

Apr. 6 Palm Sunday.

Apr. 10 Day Schools Close.

Apr. 11 Good Friday.

Apr. 13 Easter Sunday.

May 10 Art and Handwork Exhibition, Ipoh.

May 24 Empire Day. Scout and Cubs, Annual Renewal of Promise, Ipoh.

Aug. 6 Fifth combined A.C.S. and A.C.C.S. Primary Department Sports, Ipoh.

Oct. 18 Scouts Sultan Shield Competition, Ipoh.

1941 SCHEDULE

The Committee on Christian Literature and Church Extension has decided that during this year we shall publish ten issues of the Malaysia Message as compared to the customary eleven issues. This is being done as a definite economic measure due to the high cost of paper and printing. We believe that in these ten issues we shall be offering you a very large value for your subscription price of $1.00. Please remember that out of that dollar 40 cents is used to pay postage alone. Therefore there has been no February issue but it is included in this issue.

PICTURES

We request all who submit pictures for publication to send in only black and white in glossy finish. Sepia pictures are very difficult to reproduce. Examine your pictures before sending them and if the details are not sharp do not send them for they cannot be used. We prefer action pictures to group pictures. Pictures make for interest and every article about local events and local programmes is enhanced by a picture or two.

THE MALAYSIA MESSAGE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, MALAYSIA

VOL. 51 SINGAPORE, FEBRUARY—MARCH, 1941 NOS. 2 & 3

EDITORIAL

SOON AFTER THE OUTBREAK of the war a year and a half ago, we were urged to help in every way possible toward the alleviation of suffering in Europe. The Chinese community has been responding to the needs of their people since August of 1937. It is, we are sorry to say, only human for an individual living in a place of security and peace to forget those who are in danger and desperate need. We make one or two sacrificial efforts and then somehow assume that will be sufficient for the period of emergency. But the wars in China and Europe have not ceased and with every new day there come new needs and an increasingly desperate situation. We therefore, urge our readers to think not in terms of one or two acts of sacrificial giving but to think in terms of continuous sacrificial efforts month by month until peace once more dawns upon our world. There are so many ways in which we can help: The Malaya Patriotic Fund was the first to ask for our help and it deserves constant steady support ; with the increasing rigour and severity of the conflict the International Red Cross needs all the help we can possibly give it; the two great organizations, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. are likewise doing wonderful acts of service and their efforts deserve our sincerest and likewise constant support.

OUR SACRIFICIAL EFFORTS MUST BE CONTINUOUS

There has come to be, on the part of so many residents of Malaya, a feeling of complacency and smugness in regard to our own participation in these world conflicts. Sacrifices that most of us have made have been infinitesimal compared to the sacrifices made by millions of our fellow human beings. True, it is difficult for us to think personally of people whom we have never seen and whose names we do not even know, yet if we are Christians, they are our brothers and sisters. By sheer accident of geography and other conditions over which we have had no say, we have thus far been spared the fate that has befallen so many others. It is so easy to forget the Golden Rule until the time comes when we ourselves want help. We trust that every reader of this magazine will pause for a few moments, check up on what he has actually done thus far in the way of help towards others, and then acting upon the impulse begin to give, and give, and give again.

LEARNING TO THINK STRAIGHT

IN A NEWS LETTER SENT OUT BY an American University President is a very significant statement under the above title. The President says "Such youthful expressions as, "Oh, yeah," "You're telling me," "Is that so," "Not really," do not just happen. Young people are at least vaguely aware that along a hundred lines subtle, organized effort seeks to over-sell them, exploit them, and make them a kind of mass plaything of propaganda. Brought up with ultra ideas of human liberty and individual rights, there is a resulting confusion, critical realism, and for some, abandoned cynicism."

This cynical attitude on the part of youth toward big talk, the modern type of advertising, and popular customs is on the whole something for which we should be thankful. There is entirely too much loose thinking in the world today. Certainly the average individual assumes that wealth is the supreme good; he sees in the liquor ads whisky and other alcoholic beverages offered as a gate-way to happiness; he sees the cigarette advertised as "a personal friend;" he sees in the cinemas in the majority of modern pictures, the suggestion thrown at him from every possible angle, that loose morals are the foundation of personal worth and family contentment. Should we not carry this thought through and say to our youth in Malaya, "You must learn to think through for yourselves the related problems of war, peace, justice, society, individuals, race, nationalism, internationalism, raw materials, human relationships, in new and better ways." If you are going to be free, truly educated citizens of Malaya, carrying forward the highest traditions known in our democracy, then it is high time for you to be questioning everything about you, to seek to be realists, and cease from assuming that the established order of things is the Kingdom of God. There is entirely too much smugness and complacency about the world in which we live.

This President further warns his students that there is "the danger of taking an "Oh, yeah" or even a cynical attitude towards the old, permanent virtues and accumulated wisdom of the ages. That means a "Fool's Paradise" which crashes with the first storm. One feels like looking at all youth today and saying, "Be Wise! Be Wise! Be wise enough to seek and do and lead others in doing a wise God's good will, who seeks the highest good of each and all for a better world tomorrow."

OUR 1941 GETHSEMANE

THE SEASON OF LENT is again upon us bringing in Holy Week the deep thoughts and consecrations that centre about Good Friday. The Christian world, in 1914-18 and now again since 1939, is at the moment of Gethsemane; and before us is Calvary. You will remember that even Christ's most trusted disciples forsook Him at that moment of awful testing—our task these war-torn days is to decide whether we, the Christian Church, are going to deny Him.

The past two decades reveal for us two very significant religious moments or times of decision. The period of 1920—1930 in the life of the Church was dominated

by the thought of the Kingdom of God among men. The great Centenary Movement of our Church, the activities of the International Missionary Council at Stockholm, Lausanne and Jerusalem, are two outstanding examples of that thought. The Church was inspiring a new order in individual and social, economic and political, not less than in religious life; demanding a dedication of the whole personality for service to Christ. But the Church failed. It failed because it gave rise to a sense of conflict between the individual and the social gospel, it could not even move itself towards reunion. It failed chiefly because it made too much of our so-called Christian civilization when it was not Christian at all and because it lost its concept and knowledge of the power of sin and the consequent greatness and cost of its task.

The second decade, through which we have just passed, saw a great reaction. Part of it was summarized in Dr. Barth's theology of defeat and the futility of man's efforts. New ideologies revealed themselves in powerful opposition to Christianity and the world set itself down to concentrate on a race for armaments. The futility of much that had been called Christian was followed by a feeling of despair as though a judgment of doom had already been pronounced. Instead of producing courage in a time of crisis it produced perplexity and defeatism.

In this our Gethsemane how can we know the right way? How can we cry for peace when there is no peace? On the other hand we must not attempt to escape the agony of God's judgment. We must not be Nationalistic and identify God with our cause. Canon Raven says that in so doing there lies "a subtle egotism, self-righteousness and double-mindedness. St. Peter when he said, 'Though I should die with thee yet will I not deny thee' is a warning to the pacifist; when he took the sword and then ran away, he is a warning to the non-pacifist.'" Lent is just beginning again. Canon Raven suggests three tasks that are concrete and possible for us all:

> "The first is to discipline ourselves to a true appreciation of all other persons—'in loving our neighbour', in forgiving as we hope to be forgiven. This involves the problem of speaking the truth in love.....It involves seeing all the world 'in Christ'—'not to judge the world but to save the world.'"
>
> "The second is the expression of this forgiveness in service.....It involves setting out to discover immediate lines of action calculated not only consciously to discharge our own duty, but solely to witness by deeds to the life of Christ in us.....It will demand great trust and generosity; for each of us has his own load to bear. It will demand great wisdom and forethought; for we must bear one another's burdens."
>
> "The third is the achievement of unity..... Pentecost was possible because the disciples had been forgiven and commissioned; they were released from self by the power of the one loyalty, and integrated by activity in world-wide and whole-time service. They became of one heart and of one soul, and had all things in common."
>
> "If we set ourselves to these tasks, we may be found faithful in the day when we can only cry *Eloi Eloi lama sabachthani.*"

India's New Bishops

The Central Conference for Southern Asia met at Delhi on December 28th, 114 delegates being present. Bishops Badley, Robinson and Pickett were the presiding officers.

One of the most impressive sessions of the Conference was the memorial service, on Sunday the 29th, held in memory of the late Bishop J. R. Chitambar and one other Indian pastor. Mrs. J. R. Chitambar led the devotional service on Monday, the 30th, which was followed by the reading of the Episcopal address by Bishop J. W. Pickett. This had been carefully prepared by Bishop Pickett in consultation with the other bishops and it covered a very wide range of subjects related to the life and activities of the church.

On Tuesday morning the Committee on the Ministry presented their report which asked the Central Conference to elect two bishops. The report was accepted and the Conference elected the Rev. S. K. Mondol on the sixth ballot and the Rev. Dr. C. D. Rockey on the eleventh. The consecration service was held Sunday, February 2nd.

BISHOP SHOT KUMAR MONDOL

Bishop Mondol is the second national to be elected to the Episcopacy of The Methodist Church in India and in him we have a worthy successor to the late Bishop J. R. Chitambar. He is a preacher and public speaker well-known, not only in India, but in America and Europe. He has represented his Conference in the four General Conferences from 1928 to 1940. In 1939, together with the Rev. U. On Kin of Burma, he went on a goodwill mission to China. As a Rotarian he has spoken to many groups. He joined the Bengal Conference in 1921 and has served the Conference as pastor, as Principal of Collins Institute, and as District Superintendent.

Bishop Mondol has been assigned to the Hyderabad area and will have episcopal supervision of the Central Provinces, Hyderabad and South India Conferences. Bishop Mondol is married and has a family of three sons.

BISHOP CLEMENT D. ROCKEY

Bishop Rockey is the son of an Indian missionary. He was born in Cawnpore in 1889, his father, the late Dr. N. L. Rockey being Principal of the Boys School there. Bishop Rockey is a graduate of the Philander Smith College in Naini Tal, also of Ohio Wesleyan University, Drew Theological Seminary, Northwestern University and received his Ph.D. degree from Chicago University in 1929. His ministerial service began in 1913 with the North India Conference; he was first assigned to the Bareilly Theological Seminary as teacher, then as Superintendent of the Moradabad district and then as Principal at Bareilly.

Bishop Rockey has been assigned to the Lucknow area, which includes the Lucknow, Bengal and Burma Conferences. Although he is an American yet it can truly be said that Hindustani is his 'mother tongue'. The long connection Bishop Rockey has had with the Seminary and district work gives him first hand knowledge of the needs and opportunities of The Methodist Church in his area. Bishop Rockey has likewise attended the General Conference in America and is well-known both there and in India. He is married and has three sons.

The New Christian Advocate

The first issue of the New Christian Advocate, as set up by the last General Conference and edited by Dr. Roy L. Smith, has just been received. It is slightly smaller in page size from its predecessor but it contains a total of 32 pages as compared to the usual 24 of the former magazine. It follows in general set-up our Area magazine, beginning with editorials, of which the first issue has ten. The Christian Advocate has been prepared to serve 8 million Methodist Christians. The seven previous regional Advocates have been merged to form the new one.

The first issue contains besides editorials, interesting articles on world affairs, Methodism in general, a very damning two-pages on the curse of alcohol, excellent pages of Foreign and Home Mission work, and then considerable local news of interest to American readers.

Great Protestant Merger

At the meeting of the Federal Council of Churches in the U.S.A., held at Atlantic City the last week of December, there took place a fusion of the Federal Council with six other Inter-church Agencies in the U.S.A.: The International Council of Religious Education, The Home Missions Council of North America, The Foreign Missions Council of North America, The Missionary Education Movement, The National Council of Church Women, and the United Stewardship Council. At the same time Dr. Luther Allan Weigle, well-known Dean of the Yale Divinity School, was elected as the President. This constitutes the biggest merger in the history of the U.S. Protestantism. When constituted, the new "North American Council of Churches," as it will be called, will carry and correlate throughout the U.S.A. and Canada (with many a friendly contact elsewhere round the globe) the work now done by the Boards which will be merged into it. Its four main divisions will be departments of Faith and Life, Christian Education, Missions at Home and Abroad.

Clear and positive are Dean Weigle's views on the Church's responsibilities. He considers worship, evangelism, education and community welfare in that order the four primary functions of the Church. His views on each are:

Worship of God. "I mean more than liturgy by that. I mean active acknowledgment by men of the will of God. The moral law of God, the justice and love of God—in their own lives and in the life of the world. The function of the Church is to prevent men from taking anything less than God as their ultimate concern."

Evangelism. "The real spirit of evangelism is not a spirit of conquest, of going out and winning souls as trophies, but of going out to share with others the values we have found real and enduring."

Religious Education. "People must be taught what the facts are upon which Christian faith rests. The Church must give children and young people an environment in which they can grow up as Christians, and help its members everywhere to look at the problems of their lives in the light of their relations to God."

Community Welfare. "We must distinguish between the welfare activities which the Church undertakes in its own name and those which it helps to inspire and maintain through the service of people who themselves are inspired by the Church. The second is more important."

A Smuggled Letter

In the November issue of Nofrontier, edited by Devere Allen, is an interesting letter from the famous German pastor Martin Niemoeller which has been smuggled out of Germany and made public to the world press. "Not you, Hitler, but God, is my leader". These were the last words flung in the face of the German dictator by Martin Niemoeller, head of the Confessional Churches in Germany. Shortly thereafter he began his martydom. It is now four years since he was taken from his church in Berlin. After 8 months of detention he was released by a court only to be immediately re-arrested by the gestapo and imprisoned in the concentration camp at Sachsenhausen. Here is a portion of the letter (written for advent 1939).

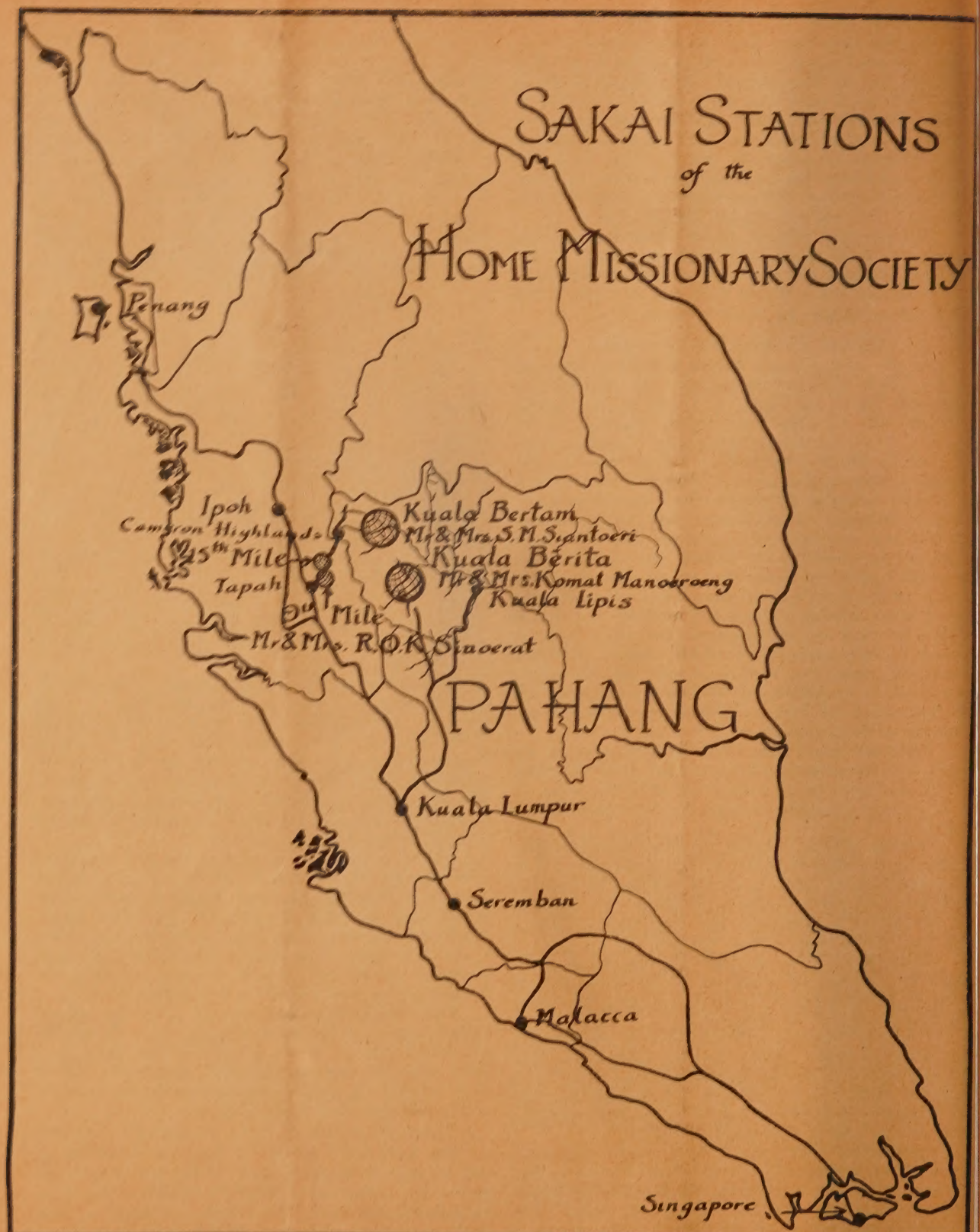
"It is impossible for me to answer personally the many hundred greetings that have come to me at this Advent season. But there is one thing I want to ask of you all; that we give no place to weariness, to capitulation! There are those who would persuade us that the suffering of our Church is a sign that it follows a perverted way. To that we reply confidently that the Apostles have born witness to the contrary. With certainty we know this, and on it we take our stand: As little does our welfare procure or guarantee us our peace with God as does our suffering. This peace remains the act of the grace of the One, whose suffering began in the manger and was achieved on the cross, that we might all be called the children of God. Let us believe, then, these glad tidings of God to us, and in their strength let us go forward on the way—in His footsteps —unconcerned with the censure of men, but with the peace of Christ in our hearts and with praise of God on our lips. So help us God!"

In a review of the Christian Church in Germany in the December 23rd issue of Time magazine it is made very clear that in Germany only the Cross has not bowed to the swastika. It is estimated that there are between 200,000 and 800,000 other Christians besides Niemoeller behind the barbed wire of the Nazi concentration camps. The best tribute to the spirit of Germany's Christians comes from a Jew and agnostic—the world's most famous scientist, Albert Einstein. He says:

"Being a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany, I looked to the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the cause of truth; but, no, the universities immediately were silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom; but they, like the universities, were silenced in a few short weeks.....

Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing truth. I never had any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration because the Church alone has had the courage and persistence to stand for intellectual truth and moral freedom."

Today Niemoeller is sick, his strength has been seriously undermined, he has not been beaten but he has told his wife of watching others beaten almost to death. Martin Niemoeller still carries on a Christian war from his concentration camp. He is Hitler's prisoner but who in the end will be victorious, Nazism or the Gospel—the future will show.



This map was prepared by the Rev. Ho Seng Ong as a part of the Survey of Religious Education he conducted in 1940

The Church and Public Morals

THE laymen of The Methodist Church in Malaya have this year shown a lively and growing interest in many f the big questions of our church and community. One roblem especially which was discussed by the laymen at ne Annual Conference was that of public, or state, otteries. A resolution which they passed and brought to ne attention of the Annual Conference as a whole stated neir firm belief that "a national lottery in Malaya to ollect funds for the war is economically unsound and norally harmful."

This position was embodied in a statement drafted by he Committee on Public Morals and accepted by both aymen and ministers of the Annual Conference. That tatement is found printed elsewhere in this issue. (see page 16) The Conference also voted that a copy be sent o the Colonial Secretary as an official expression of the iews of our Methodist Church.

Another statement accepted by the Conference, and o be sent to the Colonial Secretary, is that dealing with he Social Evil. (see page 17) Here again the enightened conscience of the church has spoken in unmisakeable terms to the public of Malaya.

Do not, however, leave such matters entirely in the ands of a few leaders. In your own ome, in your own social circle, in your wn community, let your steadfast opposition to public evils of these sorts be nade known. Make your community eaders understand that you want moral ideals to be a vital part of our public life. Build around yourself a strong core of support for every good movement in the community, and of opposition to every immorality. In that way you can help to form the public opinion which will in the end decide these questions of public policy.

This page is presented by the Malaya Annual Conference Committee on Public Morals.

Temperance Activities

The most maddening and hopeless group of people to deal with on questions of public morals is the group of those who are indifferent and ignorant about the issues. To combat this ignorance and indifference every home, church, Sunday School, Epworth League, Woman's Society and kindred organization should do its share in teaching and popularising Temperance in its various forms.

The Annual Conference Committee on Public Morals strongly urges that every Sunday School plan to include more frequent use of Temperance study and programmes this year. One lesson per quarter based on some Temperance theme would be of immense value.

Epworth Leagues, Young People's organisations and Woman's Societies are urged to institute Temperance study classes or discussion groups, and to use Temperance materials in their regular meetings. Epworth League Institute leaders are requested to keep this subject in mind when planning their programmes.

Every department and organisation of the churches is requested to plan for and participate in the activities of Temperance Week.

Knowledge and interest are the first two steps towards building up a public conscience and right public action on moral issues. We ask you to do your share in passing on the knowledge and creating the interest.

(Temperance material has been collected and is available for your use. If you need any, write to Rev. Baughman, Wesley Church, Malacca.)

Christian Workers

The key people in any programme of Temperance activity are our Christian workers. We call to their attention the following extract from the report of the Committee on Public Morals:

"We urge our Christian workers to be informed and zealous about these questions of Sabbath observance, gambling, the Social Evil, Christian recreation, and the use of alcohol, opium and tobacco. We regret the limited interest and conviction among our church members regarding these problems. We appeal to the members in our churches to refrain from any activities prejudicial to our Christian programme. Realising the great influence our teachers and church workers have in the shaping of the young lives with which they are in contact, we urge our workers so to guard this influence that the good work which our schools and church organisations are doing shall not be hindered by evil and harmful practices of our recognised leaders."

In life and teaching Jesus holds up to us an everlasting challenge to the good life. May we ever keep before us his own example, and these words of his: "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

The Voice of Methodism

Amid the confused moral judgments of our age with regard to drinking and the liquor traffic, The Methodist Church lifts the clear voice of the Christian conscience. The teaching of Christ emphasizes as one of its basic principles the sacredness of each human personality. Anything which blights personality is fundamentally opposed to the Gospel of Christ. Since alcohol by its very nature harms personality, we stand for the Christian principle of total abstinence. Since human welfare decreases as the drinking of alcohol increases, we stand opposed to the continuation of the organized liquor traffic.

We urge an intensified programme of education on this vitally important matter. The truth taught by the Church concerning the physical, moral, and social evils of alcohol has been clouded by the falsehoods and cleverness of writers of publicity in magazines and newspapers until millions do not know or realize the danger in all forms of alcoholic beverages. We call upon our Churches to cease not in their declaration of the truth concerning liquor until its poison and destruction are clearly in the minds of our people. In doing this, we ask them to use all forms of educational processes and every educational agency of the Church.

(*Discipline of The Methodist Church* 1940, par. 1724)

The first building of the Methodist Mission at Sungei Merah near Sibu, Sarawak, Borneo, where the late Rev. J. M. Hoover and Mrs. Hoover made their first home. The Hoovers had two rooms on the first floor of the section which has a shingle roof. The little building down on the river was their bath house. Their only means of communication was by the small boat on the river.

Sarawak Gleanings

By Louisa Lambert

For those who aspire toward pioneering in the tropics, Sarawak is the field for experiment. The experiment is one in personal adjustment primarily, because the ability to attain poise in living depends upon the degree to which one is resourceful within himself. Consequently, life in Sarawak does not long remain an experiment. Very soon it is either achievement or failure.

Economic achievement may be recognized in booms of logs floating down to the sawmill, or in holds of ships full of rubber, sago, and cutch. These represent the achievement of men who left their homes to be pioneers in a strange new land.

Penetration into Sarawak is only beginning. Along the rivers, within access of transportation, there is rubber, but the virgin jungle is only three miles from the bank of the river. Between the mouth of the Rejang and Sibu the monotony of the flat mangrove swamp is broken by two villages, hubs of distribution for rice and rubber and sago. The only notable achievement in town planning seems to be a concrete wharf and godown in each town.

The bazaars are tall frame shophouses, about seven in a row under a common roof. In Binatang at low tide these shophouses tower ten feet above the ground on stilts. Every thing which is not wanted in the shop or house is thrown out the door or through a hole in

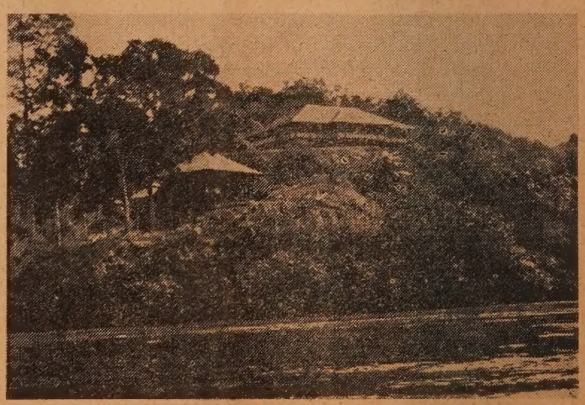


Photo by P. H. S.

Kapit Mission Bungalow and bungalow for the Batak Assistant

Photo by P. H. S.
The Mission Boat Landing with Bungalows above

Photo by P. H. S.
The Mission Site as seen from the Kapit Town side

the floor, awaiting the dispersing influence of high tide. What serves as a five-foot way is a bridge-like accumulation of boards, varying in width and stability, responsive to the rhythm of the gaits inflicted upon it. Besides the usual provision shops and coffee houses, in each village there was at least one shop with an arena-like arrangement, and a dentist's chair in the centre.

Gambling farms are legal in Sarawak and are faithfully patronized by Dyak and Chinese rubber tappers. At night, above the noise of the shops, comes the sound of rattling dice and shouting men. Fighting cocks in Borneo evoke memories of colonial times in the southern part of the United States. Two good looking cocks were outside a coffee shop. One was dead and the other stood pecking at his bleeding breast. Further along a cock stood half dead, his eyes closed, head drooping, and his breast and neck gory. He seemed to sway in the breeze.

Sibu is flat and uninteresting although the shops and market are recognized to be among the cleanest and best planned in this part of the world. A fire destroyed the business section several years ago, and it was necessary to rebuild. From Sibu to Kapit the beauty increases with each bend in the river and every new rise of hills in the distance. Lying ten hours in a long boat is not at all difficult when one can move under canopies of trees and watch brilliantly plumed birds start from their nests startled by the throb of the motor. The lure of little known, sparsely inhabited land is impelling and one is not content with merely a view from the river. Even two weeks' association with the edge of the jungle and the friendly peeople who come out of the jungle do not satisfy. Time spent in the jungle may stimulate to go farther but it rarely satiates a wanderlust.

Methodism in Borneo

This feeling symbolizes the spirit of the people in Sarawak. They are not satisfied. They are going farther. As a Mission we have achieved. Tuan Hoover was a poineer and spent his life penetrating the society of Chinese planters and bringing them Christ. Every time the ship stops along the Rejang there are numerous Methodist schools and churches within an hour's walk which are memorials to the work of Mr. and Mrs. Hoover. As true memorials these institutions must grow in their influence upon the communities in which they have been started.

This year we have new pioneers in Sarawak. Rev. and Mrs. Paul Schmucker realize that the Dyak people have achieved success to a degree, but these pioneers have gone around a bend upriver and they want to lead the people to higher achievement. They have gone particularly to be friends of the Dyaks, but Chinese and Malays as well go to see the new friends in Kapit.

Rev. and Mrs. Schmucker are not working alone. Many who may never see Sarawak are making it possible for the Schmuckers to be there because of their prayers and interest in the work. If Dyaks learn to love the Great Spirit instead of fearing many unknown spirits, it will be because people around the world are faithful to their partners in this pioneer venture in the jungles of Borneo.

Photo by Reed
Portion of a carved tree trunk—work of the Kyan people of the Pelagus River

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE

Malaysia Epworth League 1941 Institutes

In 1941 Four District Institutes will be held in four different parts of Malaya namely: Taiping, Sitiawan, Seremban, and Singapore.

At these Institutes a definite attempt will be made to train local Epworth League leaders in the different departmental activities and arrangements will be made to continue these study classes in big Epworth League centres. Singapore has given us a lead in this phase of work by organizing study classes during the middle part of this year.

The following information will be of interest to Epworth League leaders in Malaya:

PENANG DISTRICT INSTITUTE
DATE—Friday 1st August to Monday 4th August.
PLACE—Methodist Girls' School, Taipeng.
BUSINESS MANAGER—Mr. K. C. Yeoh, Anglo-Chinese School, Taipeng.
LIFE SERVICE SECRETARY—Rev. Chew Hock Hin.
PRESIDENT PENANG DISTRICT—Mr. Loo Choo Kheam.
DEAN—Mr. Khoo Cheng Hoe.

IPOH DISTRICT INSTITUTE
DATE—Monday 14th April to Thursday 17th April.
PLACE—Anglo-Chinese School, Sitiawan.

KUALA LUMPUR DISTRICT EPWORTH LEAGUE INSTITUTE
DATE—Friday 18th April to Monday 21st April.
PLACE—Anglo-Chinese School, Seremban.

SINGAPORE DISTRICT INSTITUTE
DATE—Friday, August 1st to Monday August 4th.
PLACE—Singapore.
BUSINESS MANAGER—Mr. Tan Hock Seng.
PRESIDENT—Mr. Chee Seng Kee.
SECRETARY—Mr. Thio Cheng Guan.
DEAN—Mr. Theodore Doraisamy.

EPWORTH LEAGUE CAMP GROUNDS, CAMERON HIGHLANDS.

At the all-Malaya Epworth League Jubilee Institute held at Ipoh it was definitely decided to acquire a suitable area at the Cameron Highlands for Epworth League Institutes and other Methodist gatherings.

We need to raise not less than $3000/= in 1941; this is not impossible when we think of the 30 or more Epworth League Chapters scattered throughout Malaya. Epworth League officers are urged to organise concerts in local centres to aid the above project.

G. S. Arumugam,
Secretary for Epworth League and Young People's Work.

1941 Ipoh District Institute

Date:—12 noon Monday 14th. April to 3 p.m. Thursday 17th April.
Place:—Anglo-Chinese School, Sitiawan.

1st. Period—7.15 to 8.00 a.m.—*Morning Watch*
Speaker—Rev. E. McGraw
Leader and Music to be provided by the following League Chapters.

(a) Tuesday 15th. — *Ipoh Union.*
(b) Wednesday 16th. — *Telok Anson Union*
(c) Thursday 17th. — *Kampar Union.*

2nd. Period—8.40 to 9.20 a.m.—*Bible Study* ....

(a) *The Prophets and their Message*.....Rev. C. H. Foss
(b) *St. John's Gospel*.....Rev. Milton David
(c) *One of the Epistles of St. Paul or Revelation*.....Mr. D. C. Gong.

3rd. Period—9.20 to 10.00 a.m.
Discussion hour on Christian Living

(a) *The meaning of Christian Marriage and Homes*.....Mr. Wong Wai Lam
(b) *What is the work of the Church?*.....Mr. J. Appaduray, M.C.H.
  (i) Meaning and significance of the Church.
  (ii) What does it mean to belong to a church.
  (iii) How can an individual Christian help the church, to attain its ideals.
(c) *The Meaning of Christian Marriage and Christian Homes*.....Mrs. (Dr. J. S.) Lee

4th. Period—10.20 to 11.00 a.m.
(a) Tuesday 15th. —*Business Meeting*
(b) Wednesday 16th. .. ..
(c) Thursday 17. ..

(d) *Class on League Methods.*

5th. Period—11.00 to 11.45 a.m.—*Drama and Pageantry*
Mrs. D. P. Coole and Associates.
(a) To discover the possibilities of Drama and Pageantry in the First and Fourth Department Programmes.
(b) Training young people in Worship and Preparation of Worship Programme.

6th. Period— 11.45 to 12.45 p.m.

Group Singing

District Institute Officers

Dean.....Rev. D. P. Coole
Counsellor for Men.....Rev. E. McGraw
Counsellor for Women.....Miss E. Dahlin
Business Manager.....Mr. Tai Swee Kee
Secretary for E. L......Mr. G. S. Arumugam

President Ipoh District.....Mr. Wong Hean Kim
Life Service Programme.....Rev. D. P. Coole and Miss T. Bunce

Epworth League Members,
Ipoh District.

Welcome from *Sitiawan to the Ipoh District* Leaguers.

We are looking forward to giving you a hearty welcome to Sitiawan on April 14th. We hope that you will come prepared to enjoy three days of real Christian fellowship and wholesome recreation. We want you to come in the spirit of our Epworth League motto; "Look Up—Lift Up." In our Morning Watch Services, in our Classes, in our individual prayers, may we ever look up to Christ as our Example, our Friend and Saviour. May you come to Institute with two purposes—to be drawn closer to Christ and to be made more like Him; and to equip yourselves to go back to your individual Leagues to lead others to have the same fellowship with Christ, to lift them up to the Christ like way of life.

EUGENE MCGRAW,
Chief Counsellor of the Institute.

Kuala Lumpur District Institute

Theme:—"THE CHRISTIAN SERVES"

Date:—Friday 18th April to Monday 21st April.
Place:—Methodist Boys' School, Kuala Lumpur.

1st. Period—7.15 a.m. to 8.00 a.m.—*Morning Watch*
Saturday 19th.....Rev. C. Mosebrook in charge.
Sunday 20th. } Model Devotional Meetings to be
Monday 21st } conducted by the Class on First Department Methods.

2nd. Period—8.40 to 9.20 a.m.—*Epworth League Methods*
1. *First Department*.....Rev. C. Mosebrook
2. *Second Department*.....Mr. A. T. Ponniah
3. *Third Department*....Mr. V. G. Thalayasingam
4. *Fourth Department*.....Mr. S. Veerappan

3rd. Period—9.20 to 10.00 a.m.—*Bible Study*
1. *Amos Examines his World*..Rev. J. W. A. Kadirgamar
2. *Jesus Examines his World*.....Rev. S. S. Pakianathan
3. *Jesus Examines our World*.....Miss M. Marsh
4. *Paul Examines His World*.....Rev. R. A. Blasdell

10.00 to 10.30 a.m.—*Recess*

4th Period—10.30 to 11.10 a.m.—Lecture
1. *Christian Service in the Church*.....
2. *Christian Service in the Community*.....
3. *Christian Service in Vocations*...Rev. P. L. Peach

5th. Period—11.10 to 11.50 a.m.—*Discussion Hour*
1. *Christian Service in the Church*..Mr. C. Rozario
2. *Christian Service in the Missions*.....
3. *Christian Service in the Community*.....
4. *Christian Service in Vocations*.....Rev. Ho Seng Ong

6th Period—11.50 to 12.30 a.m.
(a) *Class on Singing*.....Miss B. Bloxsom
(b) *Business Meeting*....Business Delegatates only.

N.B—at 11.50 a.m. the Business Delegates will take part in the Business Meeting while the rest attend the Class on Singing.

Camp fire on Sunday 20th. April 1941 at 8.00 p.m.
REV. W. S. REINOEHL *in charge.*

District Institute Commission
Dean.....Rev. Burr Baughman
Counsellor for Men.....Mr. Gurdial Singh
Counsellor for Women.....Mrs. C. Mosebrook
Business Manager.....Mr. Lim Swee Hong
Secretary for E. L. and Y. P's Work..Mr. G. S. Arumugam
President K. L. District.....Mr. Tay Koon Lim
Life Service Programme.....Rev. W. S. Reinoehl

Epworth League Members,
Kuala Lumpur District.

"God Send Us Men" might be taken to be the Prayer of the Spinster. But also, and much more urgently, it is the prayer of the world today: send us men, and women, "with vision clear and mind equipped, His will to learn, His work to do."

A world darkened with clouds and hate needs men and women who have caught the vision of love. A world torn by strife needs men and women with a spirit of consecrated love and service who will give heart, mind and body to the task of working with Christ to bind up the nations' wounds, and to build a better world than our fathers have known. At no period in history has there been a greater need for honest, hard-working Christians. And, let us thank God that when young people see much a compelling need their reaction is that of the young Isaiah: "Here am I, use me."

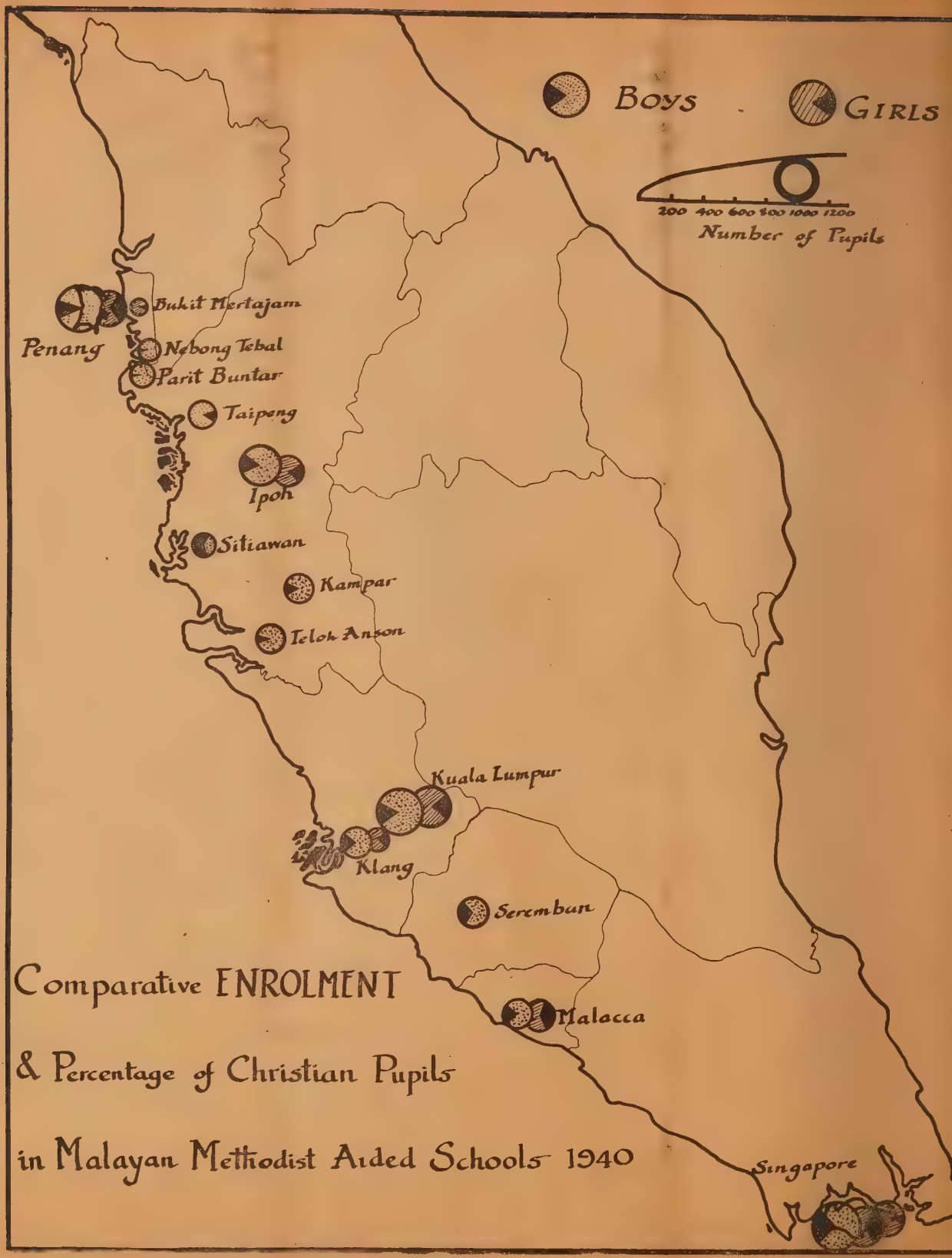
The theme of the Institute this year is "The Christian Serves." Come to Kuala Lumpur in April planning to have a good time; and come planning to learn where and how you best can serve the needs of the great world of which you are a part.

"Now God be thanked, who matched us with this hour," said another young man who faced a world in crisis. May we work and pray that we be worthy of God and of the hour.

BURR BAUGHMAN,
Dean K. L. District Institute.

A General Notice

Every year the Editor receives lists of the new office bearers of the various Epworth Leagues with the request that he print these names in the Malaysia Message. He would like to point out that these lists are of no interest or value outside of a particular local League Chapter and therefore do not seem to warrant the use of valuable space. He would like strongly to repeat the requests made over and over again that all League Secretaries send in notes concerning their activities, especially any new and interesting things which they are doing. Pictures accompanying these notes will be much appreciated and will be used if they are sufficiently sharp and of general interest.



A bird's-eye view of the extent of Religious Work being done in our Methodist Schools. This map was prepared b the Rev. Ho Seng Ong.

The Provisional Central Conference of Southeastern Asia which met in the Wesley Church, Singapore, on January 8th. Bishop and Mrs. Edwin F. Lee in the centre.

The Malaya Annual Conference

By C. Mosebrook

A COMMUNION Service marked the opening of the 49th session of the Malaya Annual Conference of The Methodist Church held at the Wesley Methodist Church, Singapore on January 3rd. Bishop Edwin F. Lee brought a brief message and the choir of the Straits Chinese Church enriched the service with an anthem and the musical responses. Of special interest was the Choral Speaking group of the Wesley Epworth League, under the direction of Mrs. H. B. Amstutz, which recited Psalm 42 as the Scripture Lesson. Following the service, the Conference was called to order and Mr. Ho Seng Ong, the secretary, called the roll. Bishop Lee announced the transfer of Rev. Abel Eklund and Rev. Willard Schurr to the Southern California Conference.

The Saturday morning session was opened by a devotional address by Mr. Lee Choon Eng, Conference Lay Leader. Dr. R. L. Archer, on behalf of the Mission, welcomed Bishop and Mrs. Lee back to Malaya for their fourth quadrennium of service and Mr. Ho Seng Ong extended a welcome on behalf of the National Workers. Little Mariel Jenkins and Suzanne Runyan presented Mrs. Lee with a basket of beautiful flowers.

The business sessions of the conference were carried out with expedience. The committees and individuals presented interesting and heartening reports. Each Superintendent reported some gains for his district. The Treasurer and the Statiscian reported healthy gains for the year in numbers of Church members, baptized children, and in the per capita giving.

Laymen Present Resolutions

The Lay Representatives held separate meetings besides joining in all the regular Conference sessions. The set of resolutions which they presented, shows they are looking ahead and taking an active interest in the programme of the Church. The Laymen recommended the following:

1. that the larger Churches adopt small Churches and render to them financial assistance.
2. that a committee should be appointed to study the needs of the smaller Churches with a view to organizing a central fund for the support of such local Churches.
3. that a uniform ruling should apply throughout the Conference regarding smoking on the part of the local preachers.
4. that the clergy and laity study one of the vernaculars spoken in this country.
5. that a National Lottery to raise War Funds is economically unsound and morally harmful; and that public opinion must be won over on this question by the clergy and laity.

Rev. P. L. Peach gave his report as Educational Secretary. This report clearly showed the importance of our educational system to the Mission as a whole. Dr. L. W. Linehan, Director of Education S.S. and Mr. Swaine, Deputy Director of Education, were present during the reading of this report by the Secretary of Education and were later introduced to the Conference. Dr. Linehan expressed the goodwill of his department toward the work that was being done by the Mission through its schools.

Mr. Arther Isaac, the lay delegate to the General Conference, gave a report on his trip to America and his impressions of the American Church. His report clearly indicated that he had received a great deal of inspiration and insight through his contact with the American Church. His words of appreciation towards the American Church were welcomed by the missionary group.

Significant R.E. Survey

The Religious Education Committee presented an interesting report, one section being a census of the religious affiliation of the school pupils which was taken last year. This survey showed that only 19% of the pupils enrolled are Christian and clearly indicated that there was ample opportunity for evangelistic work. This seems to indicate that the present need is not for further enlargement of the educational phase of the work but an increased emphasis

Singapore United Methodist Choirs under the direction of Mr. Paul E. Thomas at
Bishop Edwin F. Lee and other

upon the Evangelistic programme of the Church. A more complete summary of this survey is to be printed in the Malaysia Message and is worthy of further study.

In spite of the uncertainty of the times, the Conference adopted a forward programme. Much interest was shown in the report of Rev. Paul Schmucker on his work among the Dyak people at Kapit. Keen interest was also shown regarding the work among the Sakais. Rev. Burr Baughman was appointed to supervise this work for 1941. An increased budget was adopted for the year 1941. This past year over $4,500 has been raised for this Malaya Home Missionary programme. This support of the Home Mission projects by the local Churches is a great step forward in the building of the Kingdom.

The Seminaries Merge into a Theological College

A resolution was made and passed that there be a seminary organized from the former institutions: the Jean Hamilton Training School and the Eveland Seminary. The new school to be called "The Malaya Methodist Theological College." This is another evidence of the progress of the Church in its plans for a more extensive and adequate

rvice of Worship held in the Victoria Memorial Hall on Sunday, January 5, 1941
e Service seated in the centre.

training for its ministers and other church workers. A committee was appointed to promote further organization of this College.

The following representatives from other Churches, institutions and conferences brought greetings and good-will messages from their respective groups: Mr. Tipson of the British and Foreign Bible Society; Rev. Cleopas Tobing and Rev. Darel McFerren of Sumatra; Miss Oldfather, a missionary from Korea on her way to Burma; Dr. Jones of the Faculty of Nanking Theological Seminary; Rev. Koshy of the Syrian Church; Rev. Hong Han Keng of the Malaysia Chinese Conference, and Rev. and Mrs. J. van den Blink of the Dutch Protestant Church.

Six new missionaries who have come to the field during this last year were introduced to the conference. Miss Mildred Kerr, Mr. John Taylor, Rev. and Mrs. Tyler Thompson, Rev. and Mrs. Charles Mosebrook. The following returned missionaries were welcomed: Dr. and Mrs. Archer, Miss Minnie Rank, Miss Emma Olson, and Rev. and Mrs. G. V. Summers.

With the closing of this session, one of the faithful and hardworking Christian brothers is ending his years of

active service in the Church. Rev. Wong King Hwo, district superintendent of the Sibu District is retiring and the Conference expressed a desire to extend special recognition for his long years of faithful service. It was unanimously voted to include a biographical sketch of his work and a picture of himself in the Conference Minutes.

Conference Elections

There was an election held for delegates to the Southeastern Asia Provisional Central Conference. Those elected were as follows: Laymen G. S. Arumugum, C. B. Paul, V. D. Kuppusamy, Lee Choon Eng, Joshua Baruch, Lee Teck Hock, T. G. Thomas, Thio Chan Bee. Ministerial: Dr. R. Archer, S. S. Pakianathan, H. B. Amstutz, Chew Hock Hin, Ho Seng Ong, Fred David, E. S. Lau, P. L. Peach. There was also an election held for Conference representatives to serve on the Mission Work Committee. Those elected were: Mrs. E. V. Davies, Ho Seng Ong, Lee Choon Eng and S. S. Pakianathan.

Conference is necessarily a busy time. Committee meetings and conference business sessions occupy a great deal of time. At the same time there is an opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship one with another. The periods of worship and devotion provide for spiritual enrichment. The devotional periods at Conference gave an opportunity for this spiritual enrichment and we are indebted to those who guided our thoughts and enriched our lives by their messages. During the week, addresses were given by Mr. Lee Choon Eng, Miss Edna Dahlin, Rev. J. Milton David, Dr. R. L. Archer, and Bishop Edwin F. Lee.

The Conference Sunday

The Sunday services of a Conference are usually considered the "peak" and this Conference was no exception. The Ordination service at 8:00 at Wesley Church was most inspirational. Bishop Lee and eight District Superintendents consecrated seven men for the work of the ministry. "In Christ there is no East nor West" can truly be said of the work in Malaya. Witnessing for the first time an ordination service where several races were joined in the service of Christ, makes a deep impression on one who has recently come to this land. Those ordained as Deacons were Lim Hong Yong, M. Thangamuthu. Those ordained Elders were P. Athimuthu, Ling Muang Siew, S. M. Pandian, Ting Siew Ca, Wong Ming Eu.

The All Methodist Worship Service held in the Victoria Memorial Hall on Sunday evening was one of great inspiration. The choir of 200 voices under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas furnished excellent music. The anthem, "Jesu, Priceless Treasure" was exceptionally impressive. The guest soloist, Mrs. H. Pedlow and the organist Mrs. Jennings are to be commended for their fine contribution to the service of worship. Bishop Lee's sermon, "Christianity's Immediate and Remote Objectives" was inspiring and thought provoking. Where else could such a hall be filled with Christians of so many races? Christianity, and Methodism in particular, has a firm footing in Malaya. May the Church grow in the realm of the spirit as she has grown in numbers.

Inspite of the unsettled conditions in the world today the Conference determindly moved forward. There was no evidence of a feeling of despair, but instead there was a note of faith and confidence, and a sense of great opportunity. The theme of the Conference could well have been that of its closing hymn,

"A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and powers are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On Earth is not his equal."

Significant Resolutions Passed by the Malaya Annual Conference

(A) *THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION*

Be it resolved that we record our opposition to war as an instrument of National Policy in the relationships between nations. We cannot endorse it as the right method of settling disputes between sovereign powers. We believe that our Church as an institution should not actively participate in the prosecution of war and that it should lift its voice against the iniquities of war. We further recognize the right of every person to follow the dictates of his conscience with respect to questions of war and peace in so far as his actions are consistant with the laws of the government of the country in which we live.

We believe that the Church should co-operate with the well recognized agencies of relief in both the Orient and the Occident. It is the recognized function of the Church to ever keep alive the principles of peace and goodwill as taught by Jesus Christ.

We believe that the Church should co-operate with good people in every land in securing a basis of understanding between the nations by which a permanent peace may be secured. We therefore pledge ourselves to the realization of that ideal and to the spreading of the Christian ideals of goodwill and brotherhood which finally will make war impossible among the Sons of Men.

(B) *THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC MORALS PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS*

(i) *State Lotteries*

The present stand of the Government prohibiting public lotteries has been a source of satisfaction to our Christian group. Now, therefore, we, the laymen and ministers of The Methodist Church in Malaya, are deeply concerned over the question of proposed public lotteries, which will soon be debated in the Legislative Council. We feel strongly that a lottery of any kind, for any purpose, is a moral evil which can ultimately bring only

harm both to the community, and to the purpose for which it is organised.

In the present time of stress it is doubly important that the morals of the public be kept at highest pitch; and this can be done only as we consistently maintain our moral standards. From the viewpoint of the common people we deplore any action which may lead to public lotteries: for it is upon the poor, upon those least able to afford it, that the main burden of lotteries would fall. While the community would further suffer because of great sums of money tied up in unproductive ventures. Such lotteries, moreover, would provide great opportunity for the very profiteering and corruption which the Government has been trying to prevent.

(ii) *The Social Evil*

Recognising the deteriorating effects of prostitution upon both individuals and the community; we, the lay and ministerial delegates to the Malaya Annual Conference of The Methodist Church in Malaya, urge upon the Government of this country the pressing need to continue their efforts to eradicate the menace of this Social Evil. We ask:

1. That the present policy of total suppression of brothels be continued: (for to license brothels would mean the open encouragement of the traffic in women and children, to the suppression of which the Government has given its active support;)
2. That medical care now given to sufferers from venereal disease be continued, and, insofar as possible and necessary, be increased;
3. That the Government, through its educational channels present the facts and dangers of the Social Evil to the public.

Germany from the Inside

Nofrontier News Service reports the following news from a dependable informant who has just arrived in the United States after a harrowing six-week trip via Siberia. He states that opposition to the war is growing fast in Germany. It is especially marked in Berlin, Bremen, Potsdam, Munich and Hamburg. In these town open indifference and even opposition to the regime are constantly in evidence.. In Munich anyone who says "Heil Hitler!" when entering a shop or restaurant is laughed at. Despite this rising opposition there is as yet no strong underground organization. There is only a vague sort of comradeship among those believed to be *"safe"*.

Anti-Jewish feeling among the people has considerably decreased, according to this observer, and there are many instances of individual attempts to mitigate the severity of official decrees. Certain officials even make it a point to warn Jewish leaders when new anti-Semitic moves are in prospect.

The mass deportation of eight to ten million Jews from Baden and the Palatinate to Southern France appears to this observer as a forerunner of other similar attempts to rid Germany altogether of Jewish people by unloading them on other Governments.

The German people, it is reported, are completely without news of the outside world. Towns outside Germany proper might as well not exist for all the news they hear about them.

Sumatra Missionary Retires

Rev. A. V. Klaus, M.A., B.D., who has served for some twenty years in our Mission in the Netherlands East Indies, first in Java and later in Sumatra, retired from active service in the Methodist Mission on December 31, 1940.

Mr. and Mrs. Klaus have given themselves to the service of the Church without reserve and have built up a host of friends, both in Java and Sumatra, who will remain as a lasting monument to their Christian contribution of life and teaching among the people for whom they laboured. Mr. Klaus developed a keen understanding of the life and customs of the nationals and showed exceptional ability in mastering the native languages. He was able to preach the Gospel in five languages—an attainment rarely achieved by missionaries today.

Mr. Klaus has now accepted an appointment under the Batak-Nias Mission which has taken over the responsibility for the work formerly controlled by the Rhenish Mission in north-central Sumatra. Mr. and Mrs. Klaus will live at Sipoholon, Taroetoeng, Sumatra, and will assist five Dutch Missionaries in supervising the Mission work in that extensive and important field. This new appointment was secured for Mr. and Mrs. Klaus through the office of the Dutch Mission Consul in Batiavia. We wish to assure the Klaus's that the best wishes of their many friends follow them as they take up their new work in Batak Land.

A Meditation on Courage

By Philippe Vernier

(Editor's Note: This is the first of seven Meditations by this author which we shall publish from month to month, they are taken from the magazine "Fellowship", the January 1941 issue.)

1. GOD HATH GIVEN US THE SPIRIT OF FEAR

II Timothy 1-7

Have you not sometimes asked yourself why the apostles, why great servants of God that history speaks of, had so much daring, and why we have so little?

Think of St. Paul: "I am ready not to be bound only but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." And think of Luther: "Even if there were at Worms as many devils as tiles on the roofs, I would go there....."

This boldness is especially surprising among the most unsophisticated, among those poor fishermen of the lake of Tiberias who had not the learning of a St. Paul or a Luther. It is of these lowly ignorant men suddenly transformed into preachers and heads of churches, of these humble people who will "bear witness before governors and kings," that you must ask the secret of fearlessness.

They received it all of a sudden, the day in which the Spirit of their Master descended upon them. From that time forth they were better supported than by the most powerful friends. more enlightened than by the wisest counsels, richer than with the most immense treasures, more in security than in the safest retreat.

We should not claim that the hour of such enthusiasms is past, or that they belong only to a few exceptional beings; one would thus make anemic Christians the norm.

If daring is lacking, it is because the Spirit is lacking. Nothing is left to do but ask for it. You know your Master promised it to those who should ask.

Here and There in Malayan Methodism

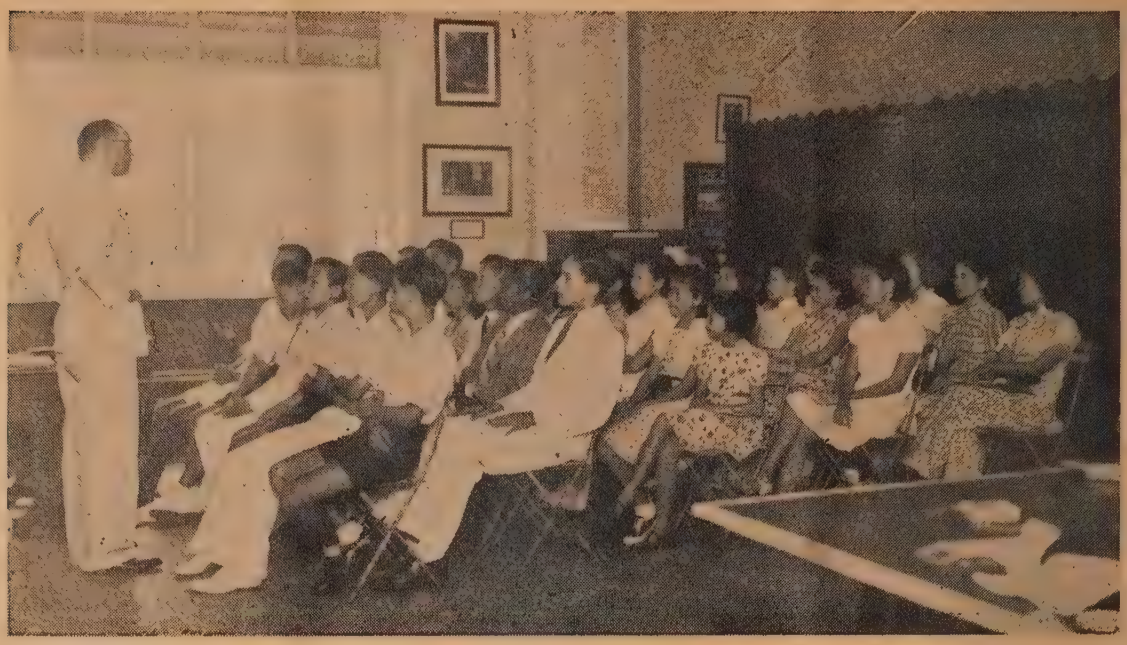


Photo by Thomas

The second Membership Class in 1940 held in the Wesley Church, Singapore, by Dr. H. B. Amstutz. Thirty-four members of this class united with the Church in December

A Looker-on in North Malaya

By K. C. YEOH

With the closing of the day schools for the December vacation, Methodist activities in North Malaya seemed to hit an upward curve, for it was also the end of the third quarter in the church calendar. Conferences were duly held in the local churches as a prelude to the District Conference in Penang. Christmas was observed with the usual joy, vigour and solemnity.

Penang Panorama

In Penang, besides the regular Christmas Sunday School parties and League Socials, the three Methodist churches rallied round and presented a Sacred Concert (as their custom has been since it was introduced by Dr. M. Dodsworth), consisting of anthems, hymns with descant, and popular carols by the Union Choir of about forty voices directed by Mr. David Khoo. A guest soloist Mrs. W. H. Vetch ably rendered 'Rejoice Greatly' from Handel's 'Messiah' and two other selections. Special mention must be made of the play 'Why The Chimes Rang' presented by the Georgetown Abbey Players. This repertory group, organised by the Epworth Leagues in Penang, has gained a place in Malayan dramatic circles. To Mr. Lester Heimark, the Director, and Mr. Tan Cheng Guan the technical director, special credit is due. Epworth League carol parties brought the Christmas message to no less than a hundred homes.

The Anglo-Chinese School has also a Vocational Guidance Bureau and a Thrift Society. By introducing the bureau, the Principal, Mr. L. B. Jenkins, has filled a long-felt need. It is only by taking an intense interest in the students that a school can expect to produce good 'old boys' who will in turn show interest in their alma mater.

Our Kindred in Kedah

Essentially a Malay state, Kedah has been a hard field for Christian labour. Three Chinese 'shop-house' churches have been established at Kulim, Sungei Patani and Alor Star. Some evangelistic work is carried on in the fishing villages. A League chapter has just been organised in Kulim. In Sungei Patani, Kedah's premier town, the many young people attending the Chinese Church should feel it the right time to start an Epworth League.

What of Province Wellesley?

Mr. V. D. Kuppusamy did not only come to Parit Buntar: he brought good ideas there. The A.C.S. has been in the public eye. School gardening is becoming popular. A few months ago, Mr. Chin Thin Yee, an Ipoh resident, presented the school with a radiogram.

One thing to be wished for in Parit Buntar, Nebong Tebal and Bukit Mertajam, is an improvement and a revival of Epworth League activities. It is especially in rural towns as these that youth leaders should have more hold on the young people who have practically no side attractions in town.

Taiping goes Ahead

The District Institute Commission which met in Penang, had decided upon Taiping as the venue for the Penang District Leagues Institute next August. The Union League in Perak's 'Sleepy Hollow' has the distinction of twice winning the Khoo Cheng Hoe Shield. With musical evenings, camp-fire services, spelling bees and literary talks included in their programme, it has won a

reputation for activity and resourcefulness. Only recently its table-tennis team scored a victory over the Chinese Epworth League in Penang.

The Lady Treacher Girls' School has only five more months to wait to see its new building, complete with twelve class-rooms, a domestic science room, a library, an art room, a music room, an assembly hall, an office, a tiffin-shed and sanitary installations.

The Chinese Church has undergone many changes since Mr. M. T. Fang took over its charge. The building is being renovated: a porch, a beautiful organ and a choir have been recently added. The Tamil Church has a strong prayer guild which is doing useful work.

It was indeed a sad commentary that the Wesley Church had to be again closed for the school vacation. This church has had no resident pastor since its dedication five years ago, and it is hoped that this immediate problem will be solved with all the urgency possible.

Photo by Selwood

A scene at the Wesley Bazaar showing visitors enjoying tea, and the screen of the cinema show

A Remarkable Bazaar

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the Wesley Church, Singapore, were fortunate in having the most successful bazaar in the history of the Church, on the first of November last. They were assisted by the members of the Epworth League and the Wesley Guild. The Wesley Hall as usual was filled with booths where many different things were offered for sale including the articles of clothing made by the ladies during the year. A new and very successful stall was called the "White Elephant" stall which netted a profit of $150.00. The Hamburger and Waffle stall proved most popular and the ladies were busy serving hungry customers from 4 o'clock until 9.30 p.m.

The young people of the Church organized a very extensive programme of amusements for the children. An electric merry-go-round, two ponies, games and many other new features plus cold drinks and ice cream and a cinema show gave the children and young people who came an opportunity for much good fun and entertainment.

The weather proved to be ideal and it was estimated that at least one thousand people attended the bazaar. The nett profits of the sale came to $1,074. Of these profits four hundred were given to the Church benevolences and six hundred toward the organ and renovation fund. It can truly be said that this bazaar represented the entire membership of the Church and was a Church project and not just that of a single group.

The Fairfield Chapel Sunday School

Fairfield Chapel Sunday School

Two years ago, the Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Kuehn, together with the Principal of the Fairfield Girls' School, Miss G. Johnson, started a Sunday School at the school premises at Neil Road. Since then, this young Sunday School has made noticeable progress.

The first Superintendent was Mr. Lim Seck Tiong and he was succeeded by Mr. Chee Seng Kee, who at the close of 1940, had to leave Singapore for Christmas Island.

Much of its progress is attributable to the untiring efforts on the part of the Pastor, the Principal and the teachers of the School. It carried on in spite of the school holidays, and this practice of never to cease functioning, has contributed greatly to its growth.

A Choir was formed under the able guidance of Miss Johnson, and to-day there is a group of well-trained singers, who have made the worship more beautiful by their singing.

Courtesy of the Malaya Tribune

Scene at the Primary and Cradle Roll Christmas Party of the Wesley Church, Singapore, Sunday School

The personnel has not changed much, but we should certainly wish that more young people visit us at our Services which are:

Sunday School at 9 a.m.
Chapel Service at 9.45 a.m.

The opportunity is taken through the medium of the Malaysia Message to invite parents of our boys and girls of our Schools, residing near Fairfield, to send their children to our Sunday School and Chapel.

Santa Claus and some of the children at the Fairfield Chapel, Singapore, Christmas Party

Malaya Lends Worker to Manila

"Miss Mechteld Dirksen, the acting principal of the School of Nursing and Superintendent of the Mary Johnston Hospital, will speak at the service of worship at St. Paul's Church to-morrow at 8 o'clock in the evening." Thus read the Church announcements in the "Manila Bulletin" for October twenty-six. From the day of her arrival in Manila our Malaya missionary has been kept busy, not only filling the emergency need in the Hospital and School of Nursing, but in giving cheerful service to many church activities. The picture accompanying this news item shows Miss Dirksen with the 19 nurses of the Freshmen Class whom it was her privilege recently to "cap." The "capping ceremony" marks the beginning of the period when the entering class has been sifted and those found worthy to enter upon the full training offered by the School are accepted. It is conducted in the intimacy of the School itself and it a very impressive occasion. The Principal of the School delivers the address to those entering into the high and noble fellowship of Nurses. Miss Dirksen gave an effective charge to these young Filipino girls, after which they sang the hymn, "Oh Jesus I have promised." The girls then came forward one by one to receive the cap which Miss Dirksen placed upon her head. As they stood in semi-circle Mrs. Edwin F. Lee offered the Prayer of Consecration. A simple candle-lighting ceremony completed the service.

Recent word from Miss Dirksen gives us hope that she may be able to return to her post in Malaya within a few months, since two nurses have arrived in the Philippines from among the missionaries no longer permitted to work in Korea.

Tronoh Methodist Chinese Church Dedication

By J. A. S.

THE new Methodist Mission Chinese Church building at Tronoh was dedicated by the Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Edwin F. Lee on the 22nd January. The Bishop in company with the Rev. D. P. Coole, District Superintendent, and the Rev. T. Runyan, was met by the pastor of the church, the Rev. Wan Yoong Fan and Mr. Wong Wai Lam. The entire Chinese Christian Community of Tronoh was present besides many members of the Ipoh Churches, among whom were Miss G. Traeger and Miss M. Kerr of the Ipoh Girls' School, Dr. Mrs. John Lee, the Rev. Carlton H. Foss, the Rev. Milton David and Messrs. J. L. Taylor and D. S. Ramanathan.

Miss Mechteld Dirksen with the new class of nurses at the Mary Johnson Hospital in Manila.

Speaking at the dedication the Bishop said, "We dedicate this Church to the unfinished task of the Church of Christ through evangelism and education; through philanthropy and social

Bishop Lee, the pastor, and other ministers about to open the new Tronoh Church

justice; through national probity and honour; through Christian unity and international goodwill.

"We sometimes think of the Methodist Mission in Malaya as solely an educational organisation. There is a fairly good balance between education and evangelism, but our responsibility goes beyond that. We want to introduce people to God, and to Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

"I wish you to consider the various organisations that are established in any country. First there is the Government, giving people protection from harm and injury and for the regulation of everyday business and all that goes in the life of a people in a political sense. It fosters schools where education is entirely secular and where instruction is given to acquire knowledge of material facts, and where leaders are not expected, and sometimes forbidden, to present to students any particular cultural or any particular religious ideal. You have athletic clubs which provide exercise for the body and for recreation. Then there are hospitals which concern themselves with physical health. But all these organisations confine themselves to particular interests as far as they go. There are some organisations where only men are admitted and where the family may not obtain entrance. The Christian Church, however, takes in all these interests and is the only organisation that serves the family and the entire community. Their Church is intended to teach and to give people ideals for practical purposes of everyday life and also an understanding of Christian character.

"The Church teaches the people to respect and aid the Government and its laws; and wherever there is a Church of Christians there is very little policing necessary to be done. We teach and we practise philanthropy, for large contributions have been sent to China to alleviate suffering and distress, and to Great Britain in the hour of her trial; and it is the Church that keeps continually before the people the ideal of Christian Charity. We teach that nations should not take advantage of those weaker than themselves and that, to whatever nation or race we may belong, we are all God's children. Thus we promote international goodwill. The Church has a wider range than any other organisation to do all this.

"This organisation here, the Church in Tronoh, is one such agency to do all these things; and an enriched life will flow out from this community into the world; and in belonging to this Church you are contributing towards making this world a better world than it has ever been before."

Tronoh lies in the midst of the rich tin regions in the State of Perak. It is actually a little mining community in itself, lying at the end of the road which connects at Pusing, with the main highway, from Ipoh to Batu Gajah. Tronoh has long been one of the towns in which The Methodist Church has been working. The work there was opened by the late Rev. W. E. Horley and has continued in spite of the slump and other local conditions. At last the little congregation was able to secure a suitable site to build their own church. In the dedication of this our first new Church for 1941 we hope God will richly bless this congregation.

Kampar News

At a meeting held on January 24th in the Teh Eu Hall of the Anglo-Chinese School, the office bearers for the Kampar Union League for 1941 were elected. Mr. Thang Wee Han is the new President.

The Teacher's Union of the Anglo-Chinese School gave a farewell dinner to Mr. Tan Beng Lee, who has been very popular as the school clerk.

At the same time, two new teachers, Miss Ng Poh Chun and Mrs. B. K. Panicker, were welcomed by the staff. An election of office bearers was held after the dinner and Mr. Lo Wei Kuang was elected as President.

Wesley Church, Klang

The Intermediate League of Klang held its first meeting on February 7th. At that time the cabinet for 1941 was elected and Master Ng Poh Loh elected as

Photo by Thomas

The Wesley Church, Singapore, Junior Choir which is directed by Mrs. Paul E. Thomas

President. The Intermediate League has been divided in four classes which are as follows: Chorus, Drama, Bible Study and Modern Heroes. These will meet twice a month. The other two monthly meetings will be in the form of a social and a junior church.

An extensive campaign is being run in Klang in the schools and the churches for subscriptions to the Malaysia Message.

Ipoh News

By J. A. S.

The Government has returned to our use some of the smaller buildings in the Mission Compound. The main buildings however are not yet available. The Principal has decided to hold the school in two sessions in our compound—an early session from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a later session from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. It will be now possible to take up some of the extra-mural activities which had to be dropped when we used the Girls School premises.

The Pastor's Report of the progress of the Wesley Church during the year 1940 shows remarkable gains in membership. Forty members were received into the Church of whom 23 are Full Members. There have been 15 Adult Baptisms during the year. There are now 122 Full Members and 54 Preparatory Members on the Church Roll. The Church is in a sound financial position as all bills have been paid and a sum of $336.00 had been given to Benevolences. Of this sum $50.00 was raised by the Epworth League and $21.00 by the Sunday School.

The Principal has managed to obtain for us the use of some of our buildings which had been requisitioned by the Government last year. Though the main part of our premises are still not available to us many school and Church activities which had to be dropped last year have been taken up again; and though we have to work in two sessions—Standards Six to Senior from 8 a.m. to one p.m. and standards one to Five from one p.m. to five p.m.—the present arrangement is far better than to have our boys meet in buildings in different parts of the town as was done last year.

Miss M. Kerr has gone to Kuala Lumpur and Miss E. Dahlin has come to the A.C.G.S. on transfer. The Rev. Carlton H. Foss is still with us, his transfer to Penang having been cancelled at the last moment as he is needed at this station. Mr. J. L. Taylor is very busy helping the Tamil Church to which he has been posted. The two Tamil congregations, one attached to the Wesley Church and one to the Tamil Settlement Church; take up a good deal of his time. He is also interested in Scouting and is perhaps the first, and only American, to become a Scout-Master in the Baden-Powell Scout Movement in Malaya.

A Memorial Service for Lord Baden Powell, the Chief Scout, took the form of a ceremonial Parade of all Scout Troops at the Ipoh Padang on the 12th of January. The Sultan was represented by Y.T.M. The Raja Muda, and Mr. Hertslet, the Assistant Commissioner for Malaya; was in command of the Parade. The Rev. D. P. Coole, our District Superintendent, led at the devotional part of the Service.

The Sunday School Board met to elect officers for the current year. Considering the fine work the Sunday School has been doing in the past year, the Board re-elected the same officers for this year as well: Miss. D. Moreira, General Superintendent; Mr. Yong Choong Yoong, Superintendent of the Senior Department; Mr. J. Appaduray, Superintendent of Junior Department.

The following is a brief summary of the report presented by Miss Daisy Moreira, the General Superintendent of the Union Sunday School, at the first Board Meeting for the year 1941.

Average Attendance for the year	215.
Number of teachers	28.
Income	$393.37.
Expenditure	$197.60.
Balance in hand	$195.77.

The Easter Programme on March 24th consisted of Songs and poems given by the Primary and Junior Departments and a Play entitled "Power" by the Senior Department, directed by Miss N. Moreira. The Children's Day Programme on July 21st arranged by Mrs. Kesselring. All Departments took part in the Programme. The Christmas Programme on December 1st was arranged by Mr. Runyan.

The election of members of the Cabinet of the Epworth League resulted in the election of Mr. Choong Wow Lim; as President; and a strong list of officers to assist him.

On Sunday, the Second of February, the installation ceremony of the Cabinet Officers was taken by the Rev. T. Runyan. A full service of installation was observed which was followed by the Holy Communion. The boys' Boarding School has had to be abandoned this year as no suitable building to house the boys is available. Some boys however are living in private homes and they are under the general supervision of the Principal. The fall in attendance at League services which was feared would follow the closing of the Boarding School, however, has not occurred. On the contrary, there has been a very decided increase in attendance at the meetings this year, and there is every indication to believe that this improvement will hold throughout the year.

A Fellowship Breakfast

Under the leadership of Mr. Arthur Isaac, the lay delegate to the General Conference of 1940, The Tamil Church, Singapore, held a fellowship breakfast on the morning of February 10th or "Thaipusam Day". Mr. Isaac had attended such breakfasts while in the U. S. A. and was inspired to arrange this one. They endeavoured to get as many nationalities present as possible and were successful in having about six countries represented. Those who attended were given not only a warm reception but also a very "warm" breakfast—the first breakfast of this type that many had ever eaten.

Mrs. Arthur Isaac was the Chairman. After the breakfast she introduced the speaker, Mrs. Celeste B. Amstutz, who spoke on the subject, "Unity in Diversity." She mentioned among other things the evil things which have united men hatreds, nationalism, race prejudice, caste, and greed. Then she very ably suggested other things by which we might come together: in brotherhood, in the breaking down of pride and foolish prejudice, and in the attempt to work together for common unselfish ends.

A Privilege

The dim glow of the lamp and the dancing light from the open fireplace played upon the quiet figure of a girl sitting with an open letter in her hand. She raised her steady blue eyes often as she shifted the pages. Marilyn was a modern girl from the toeless tip of her brown suede shoes to the wave of her shining brown hair.

She laid the letter in her lap and stared with unseeing eyes into the fire. Instead of the brightly-coloured flames, she saw again the café where she had been working. She had been glad to get the job. She had needed the money, but besides that, she had been restless in spirit and wanted to take her place in the world of workers. She had always wanted to write, but that seemed a distant, possible accomplishment, and one must be doing things now. She had answered the advertisement, and got the job.

From the first, Marilyn knew she did not fit. She was hungry for real companionship, but she could not find it there. The other waitresses chatted together with common understanding, but she could not enter into it. Sometimes in the rush of the dinner hour, they accidentally jostled one another. With the others they passed it off with a laugh, and quip, but to her it was, "Oh, sorry," in a tone which implied, "What business do you have here? Better get with the high-uppety-ups where you think you belong!"

That, hard as it was, was not the most difficult part. Marilyn had to serve beer, and her whole soul had turned from it in aching revulsions. True, she had wanted to rub shoulders with the working world. And, she was doing that.

There had been that young couple, the girl whose frightened brown eyes had seemed to plead with her for help and understanding as her over-confident companion had urged her to "Come on, Baby, it won't hurt you. It's time you grew up." Heartsick, Marilyn had to take the brimming glasses to them. How could she stay in a job like that? How could she? But she needed the money. She knew the other girls thought of it all as a joke. Why did she have to be so different?

She had felt a kinship with some of the diners who came in. Many of them she could have understood and liked. But the next minute she had had to serve beer at an adjoining table.

Two days had been enough to tell Marilyn she had to choose. She had to leave or stay and be absorbed into that surging mass of humanity whose ideals had been forgotten and trampled underfoot. If she quit, it meant she had to go on being different, and she was so weary of that. Why couldn't she find happy companionships in her work instead of being utterly shut out?

That night she had gone home with a battle raging in her heart. Did one always have to know the loneliness of being different? Couldn't one compromise and keep one's ideals, too? She could not sleep, she could not rest. Finally at 1 o'clock in the morning she sat down with pencil and paper and poured her problem out to a friend who, she felt, would understand. That brought a measure of release, and she knew what she must do. She knew she had to hold to her ideals no matter what the cost; yet the question persisted: why was she so different?

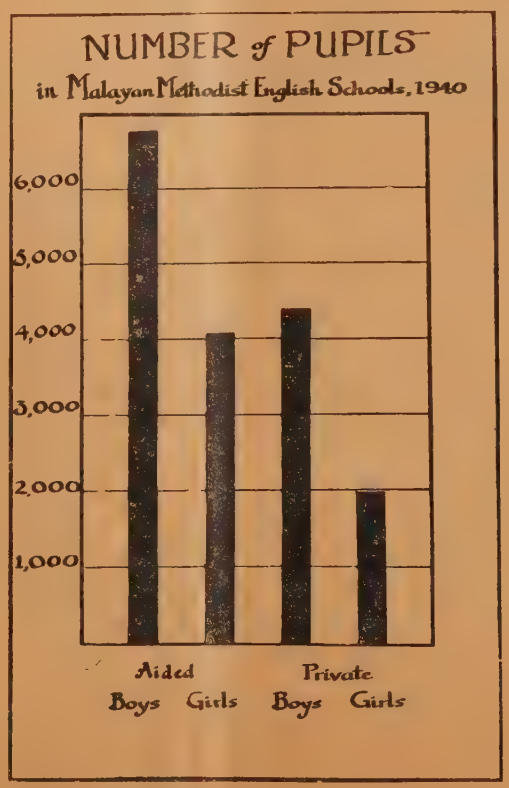
A few days later, Marilyn had found another job where no compromise was called for, and to-night she read again the letter from the friend whom she had asked, "Why am I so different?" She glanced through the pages yet again.

"I, too, know the heartache of being different. It is a lonely business sometimes. How often my heart has been heavy when companions indulge in shallow gossip. Nothing very bad being said perhaps,—just thoughtless,—but it means dabbling around in muddy little puddles, when we might have plumbed the depths or scaled the heights together. Yet we are in good company. All the great souls the world has known have been different. Even the greatest of all, Jesus Himself was different. Even His own family failed to understand Him. They thought He must be odd. And when He needed them most, three of His closet friends went to sleep. Yes, Jesus knew what it means to be different. He knew the heartache of it, and He knew the challenge of it. And so, my dear, be very sure He knows all about your heartache now."

Marilyn had found that to be true. She knew it now, for she had told the story all to Him, and had found a strength and quietness she had not known existed. It didn't seem to matter now.

Through the dying embers in the fireplace, Marilyn saw her task, her privilege to share with others what God had given her. "It's a privilege to be different," she told herself. "I won't be afraid to live my own life as I have been taught to live it."

—*The Union Signal*



A graph showing the number of Pupils in our Methodist English Schools. This is a part of the Survey conducted by the Rev. Ho Seng Ong and the graph was prepared by him.

Our Boys and Girls

THE UNFINISHED JOURNEY

(Dave Livingstone)

(But He does not always answer as we expect Him to; sometimes He says "No.")

THROUGH the long grass by a great African lake, more than forty years ago, a gang of slave-traders made their way. They were brutal swaggering men, with red Arab caps on their heads, and they carried whips and muskets. A line of African slaves, chained and roped together, staggered along in front of them, men, women, and children, the men with long forked slave-sticks riveted on their necks. Every now and then a slaver would strike the defenceless captives as they staggered along under the burning sun, or blow a blast on his long tin horn to warn those in the rear to hurry.

Suddenly, on the horizon, another group of men appeared, a white man, a few Arabs, and a native carrying on his head, and a group of natives.

With a yell of fear the red-capped Arabs took to their heels, disappearing like rabbits into the long grass. The men in the group [illegible] David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, who had determined to stamp out the slave trade in Africa, and the very sight of him was enough for the slavers! He did not follow them, but went at once to the relief of the crowd of shivering captives. Knives quickly cut them loose, and a big gun freed them from the slave-sticks, which were broken up to make a fire on which to cook breakfast. Before long the strange company sat down with Livingstone to a meal.

David Livingstone had seen this horrible sight over and over again. He had seen men and women examined like animals in the slave markets at Zanzibar, pinched and pushed about and made to run like horses. He had seen villages looted and burned, and all along the slaver's trail lay the dead bodies of men who had given up their lives rather than lose their freedom. The weeping of women whose children had been taken was always in his ears.

But what could be done?

There were three things to be done. There was the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be preached in Africa. Men must be brought to realize how wicked this thing was, and how unworthy of children of the same Heavenly Father. There was the interior of Africa to be opened up, so that honest traders could come and drive out the slavers, and put an end to their devilish traffic. And there were the people of England to be wakened up. England must see to it that in all her territories slavery was abolished, and that the right men were sent to the rescue.

David Livingstone was trying to do all these three things. He was first a missionary and then an explorer in Africa. When he went to England he pleaded the cause of the slaves with all the fire of a great evangelist.

And yet England did not seem to wake up. Sometimes when he looked at the faces of his audiences, so interested, so kind, and yet not really stirred about it all, he was at his wits' end what to do. And then there came to him the thought that if only he could make some great discovery in Africa, it would make all the hard and bitter, and at last his great work would be accomplished.

So it was that in the year 1865 he set out for Africa again on an expedition to discover the watershed of Central Africa, open up the country, and perhaps discover the mysterious beginnings of the great River Nile.

It was a long and terribly hard journey. They had to go for miles over country where food could scarcely be had, sometimes only a little hard grain that broke and loosened his teeth when he ate it. He forded rivers, tramped over spongy marshes where leeches fat him and drew blood. He was sometimes so ill that he had to be carried in a cloth slung on poles, with no protection against the sun but a bunch of leaves which he was too weak to hold up, and all his medicine stolen, or carried to the wrong place. But he never lost his heart or his temper, and night by night his faithful black servants might have seen him kneeling by his bedside, offering up to his Lord all he had. This is the prayer he wrote on his birthday, March 19th, 1872:—

"My Jesus, my King, my Life, my All, I again dedicate my whole self to Thee. Accept me, and grant, O my gracious Father, that ere this year is out I may finish my task."

He wrote that at Unyanyembe, and from there he pressed on. Shy and savage black people deceived them when they asked the way, and would not sell them food. Dangerous snakes were abroad in the forests, and stinging, biting insects that carried fever and poison to the weary travellers. Lions roared not far from their little tents at night. And there was always the rain, soaking through clothes, shelter, and even bedding. Plunging through flooded rivers, Livingstone's brave men carried him on their shoulders, and even then could scarcely keep him clear of the water.

The summer passed, and the autumn, and the winter, and Livingstone seemed no nearer to the streams that fed the Nile. He was ill with dysentry and losing his strength through bleeding. One night a great horde of ants came into his tent and swarmed over him, biting him furiously. Still he went on. March the 19th came round again, and God had not answered his prayer. But all he wrote in his journal was a thanksgiving: "Thanks to the Almighty Preserver of men for sparing me thus far."

God answers prayer. He is our light and our defence to-day as of old but He does not always answer as we expect Him to; sometimes He says "No!" .... Prayer is not only asking for things, it is also praise and thanksgiving and confession .... and thinking in quietness .... and communion .... and the offering of our whole selves to God.

They went on through the spongy flooded country; Livingstone grew weaker and weaker. "Oh, how I long to be permitted by the Over Power to finish my work!" he wrote. Two days later the men had to carry him again; he was too ill to walk. At night and in the day he was too weak to move from the hut to the carrying blanket, and they had to break down the wall of the hut and bring it to his bedside. Not many days later they reached a place called Chitambo's village, and there, all in the dreary rain, they laid him down and built a little hut round him. In the darkness of the early morning the boy who slept at the door of his hut suddenly called to his companions: "Come to Master. I am afraid."

They found him kneeling by his bed as if in prayer. David Livingstone was dead. God had said "No" to his prayer. He had not finished his work.

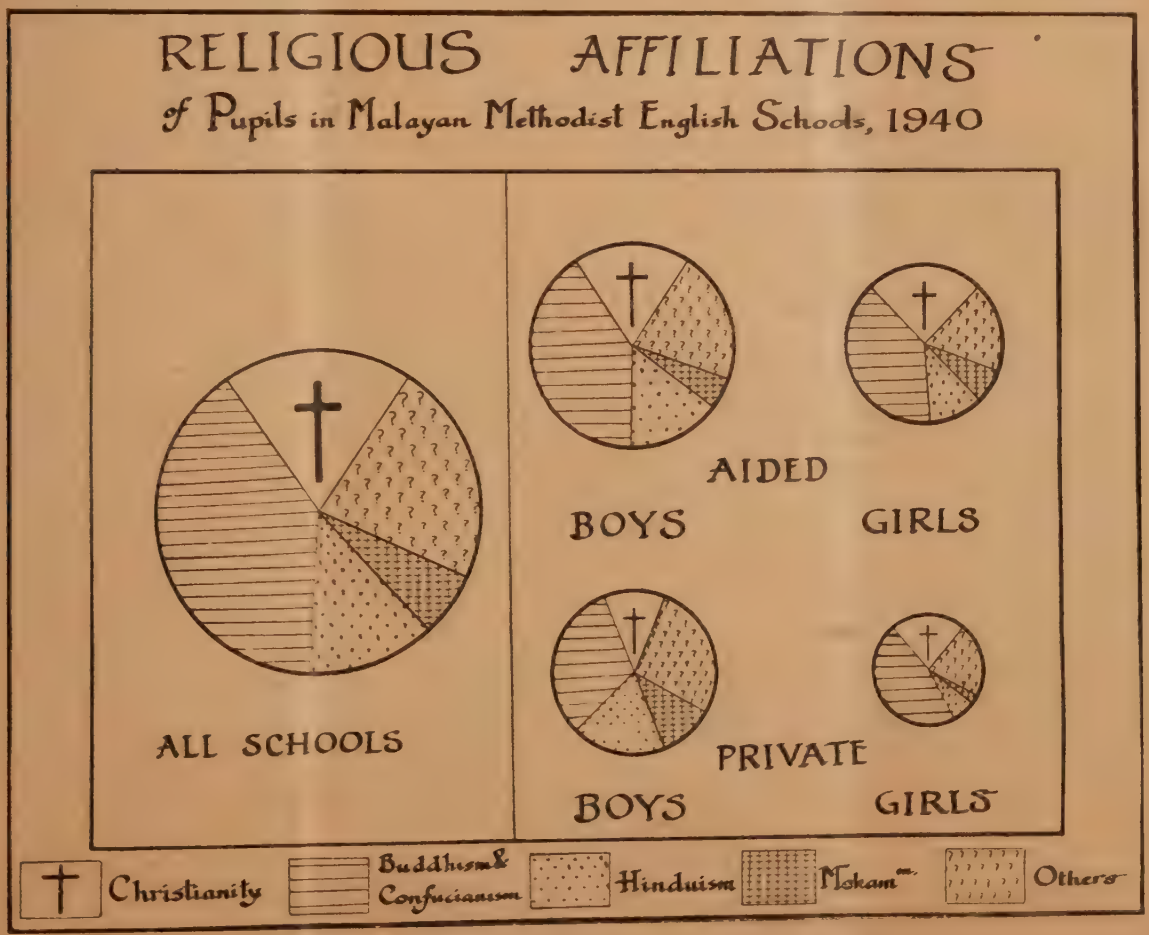
The story of that lonely death reached England. His loyal servants embalmed his body, and carried it along with his precious papers and instruments through incredible difficulties hundreds of miles to the coast, where it was taken home. It rests now in the Abbey of Westminster, among saints and kings. Livingstone's prayer to finish his work by making a great discovery was denied. But that deeper prayer which was his whole life, the prayer for the liberation of Africa, was granted. His failure and death in that lonely village stirred England as no discovery would ever have done, and ready hands took up the work that he had died to establish. The end of it was that on the site of the slave market at Zanzibar rose a Christian Cathedral, where free Africans learnt to worship the Lord of all men. And along the pathway he travelled slavery has been abolished. There are no slave-traders there now, only the homes of free men.

(*From PRAYER-STORIES by Vera E. Walker*)

Womens' Society, Penang

The first meeting of the newly organized Womens' Society of Christian Service, of the Wesley Church, took place on the 11th of February in the Wesley Manse. There was a good attendance of women and they were given an outline of the purpose and place of the new organization within the Church. After signing the roll as charter members the election of officers was held. Miss Dorothy Moreton was chosen as President and Mrs. N. A. Horley and Mrs. Goh Heng Chong, as Vice Presidents.

The Womens Society likewise appointed the following Committees with Chairmen: Executive, Programme, Finance, Membership and Spiritual Life. The Pastor, the Rev. C. D. Patterson, was present and addressed the meeting following, the election of officers.



This chart was prepared by the Rev. Ho Seng Ong

OUR SCHOOL MAIL BAG

THIS IS A DEPARTMENT FOR BOYS AND GIRLS who are studying in our Methodist Schools in Malaya, Sumatra and Borneo. Contributions from school boys and girls whose parents are subscribing to the Malaysia Message no matter in what part of the world they are living, will be welcome.

Original short stories, poems, descriptions of hobbies and interesting letters are considered. For each article or contribution accepted and published a year's subscription to the Malaysia Message or a book valued at one shilling or fifty cents from the Methodist Book Room, Singapore, will be given.

TRANSPORT IN MALAYA

Transport is to commerce what legs are to human beings. Indeed the above statement is absolutely true in all respects. Just as human life would be hopelessly handicapped and restricted without the capacity and ability to walk, so commerce would be hampered without the means of transport. Leaving sea and air transport aside for the time being as they do not suffer much solid and antagonistic competition, we come to the Road and Rail transport which are in a serious controversy, which if not cleared will result in a very serious clash and consequently be a terrible hinderance to Malayan Transportation as a whole.

The Federated Malay States Railway system is spread well over a distance of 1000 miles of metre guage railway. Regular services of fast trains run from north to south and vice versa connecting all the principal ports, mining regions and agricultural areas. The railways provide cheap, safe, efficient, comfortable and punctual travel. The Railways being the common carriers are compelled to accept for transport any load offered to them, which however, road carriers may have refused because it may be unprofitable; thus the railway is compelled to convey it, whilst the road carriers capture profitable loads which the railways could utilize to balance the losses. The Transport Board has been established at a critical moment, and the object of the Board is to consider granting licences to road carriers to ensure that the public's needs for good transport are adequately met with. Transport facilities in excess of the requirements are not developed and consequently no wasteful competition is permitted. It cannot be denied that the railways provide a modern way of transport, and it is not too much to say that the railways have been solely respon ible for the opening up and the development of Malaya and are still the mainstay of our commerce.

We now come to the contemporary of the rail, that is, the Road. Truly it has been said that Malaya is a land for motorists. Malaya can proudly boast of its 3500 miles of good metalled roads linking together all towns and villages alike. Credit is due to the Public Works Department for providing this up-to-date road system, the foremost in the Orient. Fleets of cars, lorries, and gigantic motor-busses go to complete the modern road transportation system where the rail does not serve. The adventurous schoolboys of the present day take advantage of the excellent roads to travel up and down Malaya on their "iron horses" or bicycles during their vacations. The land transport undoubtedly is an asset to Malaya.

We now picture the water transport. Water transport serves the Malayan coastal ports adequately. Of course, there are no inland cannals like Venice, the land of waterways. Water transport is the cheapest means of transport and is resorted to by all business firms to convey goods from port to port.

Last but not the least in importance is the Air transport. This is still in its infancy. Credit is due to Mes rs. Wearne Brothers Ltd., who are responsible for the fast Malayan air services which are carried on every alternate day. There is a great future for air transport. The making of better aerodromes is going to be the first step for better air services.

Thus we see that Malaya does not lack in any kind of modern transport. Distance was an ancient hinderance to mankind but is steadily disappearing before the modern scientific means of transport. The cosmopolitan population of Malaya should therefore be proud of its transport systems and as far as possible should utilize them.

GURDIAL SINGH,
Senior A., M.B.S., Kuala Lumpur.

I LOVE

I love music, for it plays a very important part in life. William Shakespeare says that a man without music is incapable of responding to the beauty of sweet harmonies; his thought are low and dull; and he is always unhappy. Music has the power to stir up our deepest emotions. It is said in an ancient legend, that Orpheus with his lute could sway all things by the power of his music.

Next, I love my bosom friends. They are the people, who help me to get on in life. There is a proverb which says, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." It means that we must help our friends when in trouble or in difficulty. To form good friendships, we must take time, so that we may find out that our friends have the same habits, interest, and tastes as ourselves. The friendship between David and Jonathan is a classical example.

I love the world as it is here. I hope all the world will soon enjoy peace and not be involved in such terrible wars as it is to-day.

I like to see children going to school happily, people doing their work peacefully without fear of air raids.

I love to hear birds singing in the trees, the sound of engines in the factories, the hooting horn of motor cars which pass by, and the shouting of hawkers in the back lane—but not the explosion of heavy bombs.

In short, I am very much in love with life.

YAP AH MENG,
Std. VIII, A.C.S. Seremban.

BALD HEADS

The head being spherical and much resembling the earth, has also other characteristics that are common to the earth. Some parts of the earth are forested, while others are deserts.

Fertile lands are forested, while deserts lie waste. Similarly hair is abundant on some heads while others are bald. Some heads are semi-bald, while others are completely bald.

Deserts are formed by lack of water. It makes one wonder if scanty growth on the head is also caused by insufficient food material or lack of brain. Bald heads cannot be due to lack of brain, because often great philsophers are bald-headed gentlemen, and great thinkers have scanty hair.

Both in the East and West, such heads are not admired. Men who looked charming in their youth lose all their charm when they reach their thirtieth year. Nature deprives them of their hair and leaves small patches of hair growing on their heads. More often than not, their heads become completely bald and look like well husked coconuts or glistening billiard balls. Few women have such ugly bald heads. Perhaps that is why there are few philosophers among them.

Baldness is sometimes hereditary. The son who laughs at his father's well-polished "skating rink," in time laughs at his own head. How desperately some victims of this malady try all possible hair restorers. Worry is probably the cause of baldness, which is made worse by worrying about getting bald. This causes strain in the household, and unless Mussolini comes into power in Malaya, bald heads will not become the fashion. This of course is a remote possibility.

If the bald head is that of a teacher, students can see their reflections on the shining skull. A bald headed teacher wastes no time combing his hair. It is natural for people to spend hours trying to make themselves handsome.

We often pity these bald headed people, and sympathize with them, but it is rather astonishing to find that they do not sympathize with one another. They sincerely desire to have a head of wavy hair.

However, it must be said to the credit of bald-headed people that they have an air of importance about them, and we hope that all of them do use their brains.

ANNABELLA CHRISTIE.
School Certificate, A.C.S. Seremban.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL. . . .

The camera catches the Bishop at the Tronoh Church dedication

Bishop and Mrs. Edwin F. Lee sailed from Singapore, January 29th, enroute to Manila. Because of travel restrictions they went by way of Java, stopping first of all for a visit at Palembang. Bishop Lee will hold the two Philippine Conference shortly after his arrival, will attend to urgent matters pertaining to that area, and then expects to return to Singapore early in May.

The Rev. and Mrs. Willard A. Schurr announce the birth of Mary Christina on New Year's Eve, December 31st, and send greetings to all their Malayan friends.

Mr. Schurr is the pastor of the Methodist Church at Elsinore, California, and has had a most successful year. On February 7th they had a "mortgage burning" celebration in connection with the paying off of the debt on the Elsinore Methodist Church. The church building was erected in 1924 and for quite a number of years the congregation had been unable to make any payments on their debt. Since the beginning of Mr. Schurr's pastorate they have paid off $5,000 and are now debt free. We congratulate Mr. Schurr on this splendid achievement.

A Christmas greeting to her Malayan friends has been received from Mrs. Mary Macky, the former Miss Mary Whitfield. Mrs. Macky, husband and family, are living in Bermuda.

Mr. Chee Seng Kee of the staff of the Anglo-Chinese Continuation School, Singapore, was married on January 1st to Miss Khoo Paik Choe of the Telok Ayer Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Chee sailed for Christmas Island on January 3rd, where Mr. Chee is taking up an appointment under the Malaya Education Department. Mr. Chee was the President of the Singapore District Epworth League during 1940 and very active in promoting Inter-League activities and especially successful in the Inter-League sports Rally and Study Classes.

Mr. Harry Fang, son of the Rev. C. E. Fang of Kuala Lumpur, and Miss Teh Kim Koe of the Telok Ayer Methodist Church announced their engagement at a party in Singapore on the 11th of January. Mr. Fang is a student in the Malaya Methodist Theological College.

The Rev. Wong King Hwo, one of the veteran Chinese members of the Malaya Annual Conference, retired at the recent session of Conference in January. Mr. Wong was admitted to the Conference in 1911. He served the Conference throughout his ministry in the work along the Rejang River in Sarawak and was the right-hand man to "Jim" Hoover. Mr. Wong began his work as a layman. Throughout his ministry he retained his business interests and was able to be of great assistance to the work in that district. He usually served without any salary and was always willing to be of help in whatever capacity he might be called to fill. There is not a single church or a school under the Methodist Church in Sarawak that he has not had some share in building. Mr. Wong's retirement does not mean cessation from the work of the ministry and he will no doubt continue to serve to the end of his days. Mr. and Mrs. Wong are the parents of a large family. Several of their daughters are serving as nurses in the Singapore General Hospital.

Rev. Wong King Hwo

Mariel and Darel Jenkins

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Jenkins and family sailed from Penang for Medan, Sumara, on February 15th. Mr. Jenkins has taken the Principalship of the Methodist Boys' School in Medan. He will relieve Mrs. Darel McFerren, who has been Acting Principal since the first of the year, following the resignation of the Rev. A. V. Klaus.

Rev. and Mrs. G. V. Summers and family visited the Schmucker's in the new Mission home at Kapit over Chinese New Year.

2nd Lieut. Eric Horley

The engagement and marriage is announced of Evelyn, daughter of Mrs. A. E. Horley and the late Rev. W. E. Horley, M.B.E. to Second Lieutenant G. E. H. Ogilvie (nephew of the Earl of Ypres) and son of Mr. and Mrs. M.

H. Ogilvie of Johannesburg, South Africa. Miss Horley has been teaching in one of the schools in Johannesburg. The notice of this engagement was dated Friday, August 23rd 1940, and in a letter received at the same time as the notice it stated that the couple expected to be married in Mombassa, Africa, on September 14th.

Mr. Noel Horley, Headmaster of the Anglo Chinese Middle School, Penang, is now assistant pastor of the Wesley Church, Penang, and preaches regularly.

Mrs. A. E. Horley is staying with her daughter Madeleine and family at St. Ives in Cornwall. Madeleine's husband is in he army somewhere in England. Eric is also in the army and holds the rank of Second Lieutenant.

Professor Edwin Lewis of the Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey, and Mrs. Lewis send greetings to their friends in Malaya. Professor Lewis has just published a new book entitled "A Philosophy of the Christian Revelation" and in January he gave the Quillian Lectures at Emory University.

The Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Worthington of Welaka, Putnam County, Florida, send greetings to their Malayan friends. After several years spent in lay activities at Lakeland, Florida, Mr. Worthington been appointed to a two point circuit, Welaka-Satsuma. Both churches are community churches. Mr. Worthington has also been assigned as chaplain to Company "C" of the National Guards. Mr. and Mrs. Worthington have never forgotten their missionary interests and were able to raise more than $100 U.S.A. last year by means of fish and curry dinners, at a dollar a plate, the proceeds of which have been sent to Malaya.

Miss Mildred Kerr of the A.C. Girls School, Ipoh, left on the first of February to join the staff of the M.G.S., Kuala Lumpur, and Miss Edna Dahlin left the M.G.S. in Kuala Lumpur, to join the A.C. Girls School in Ipoh. Miss Dahlin will become the Principal of that school when Miss Gazelle Traeger goes on leave.

Miss Mechteld Dirksen, who has been on the staff of the Mary Johnson Hospital (a Methodist Institution) in Manila, sailed for Singapore February 25th. (See page 20).

The Rev. J. L. McLaughlin D.D., father of Mrs. W. S. Reinoehl, has retired from the American Bible Society. Dr. McLaughlin has been in charge of the Chicago Office of this Society for many years; he has always worked indefatigably on behalf of the Society and has greatly extended its activities. His office has sold more Bibles than any other in the U.S.A. Mr. McLaughlin was originally in Malaya as a teacher in the Anglo Chinese School. He was transferred to Manila after having been here about one year in order to open our work over there. In his first term his efforts were wonderfully blessed and he laid the foundation of our present large Church in the Philippines. After one term of service with the Methodist Church he was offered the position of Secretary for the American Bible Society in the Philippines and has been with the Society ever since.

Grin & Bear'em

Proper Hymns for Speeders

Any motorist venturing on the public highway should sing if he has any regard for his future abode. This is the opinion of a Mennonite pastor in Manitou, Colorado, who not only gave this advice to his congregation but actually selected the hymns they should sing.

According to this preacher, hymns should be suited to the speed, as follows:

25 miles per hour: "I am a stranger here; heaven is my home."

45 miles: "Nearer, my God, to Thee."

55 miles: "I am nearing the port and will soon be at home."

65 miles: "When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there."

75 miles: "Lord, I am coming home."

Sandy was riding in a cab when the driver lost control and shot forward at terrific speed.

"I can't stop," shouted the driver.

"Well, for Pete's sake," shouted Sandy, "can't you at least turn the meter off?"

Customer: I won't be able to pay for this suit for three months.

Tailor: Oh, don't worry about that, Sir.

Customer: Why, that's very nice of you. When will the suit be ready?

Tailor: In three months, Sir.

The passer-by peered anxiously into the open manhole.

"Don't tell me," he cried, "that you fell in there!"

Up from the depths came a voice.

"Of course not, you fool. I just happened to be here and they built the street around me!"

"What do you think of my work with the camera?" asked the young man, an enthusiastic amateur photographer.

"It's splendid in its way,' replied the girl. "It's better than any of the professional caricaturists could do, I'm sure."

Lady Customer: Are you positive that this is the finest, freshest hamburger you could possibly sell me?

Butcher: Yes, ma'am, I went to special pains to pick out the finest piece of beef in the store to grind up for you.

Lady Customer: Well, I'm certianly glad. Our cat is awfully particular!

Applicant: Well, here I am to see about that job you advertised.

Boss: I see. Do you think you can do the work?

Applicant: I thought you wanted a foreman!

Husband: You want more money for the dressmaker? Why, I gave you $20 for that last week.

Wife: Yes, dear, but she didn't send her bill then.

Information clerk: Madam, this train goes to Kuala Lumpur and points north.

Madam: Young man, I want a train to Ipoh, and I don't care which way it points.

"To what do you attribute your great age?" asked the city visitor of Grandpa Eben Hoskins.

"I can't say yit," answered Grandpa cautiously. "There's several o' them testimonial fellers a-dickerin' with me."

Tombstone Dealer (after many suggestions)—How would just a simple "Gone Home" do for an inscription?

Widow—I guess it would be as good as anything, for it was always the last place he ever went.

The student's allowance had run out, so he wrote home for more money. Feeling a bit nervous about the impression it would make, he ended his letter: "P.S.—I did not like writing to you. In fact, I ran after the postman to get this letter back.

A week later he received the following reply:

"You will be glad to know I did not receive your letter."

Clerk—These will grow up into big strong trees.

Mrs. Newlywed—Well, in that case I'll take a hammock as well.

A BOOK REVIEW

Mr. S. Durai Raja Singam, who is a school master at Raub and already known to our readers as the author of "Malaya's Cultural Debt to India," "Port Welt to Kuantan," and "Malayan Street Names," has published a new book entitled "Munshi Abdullah to Anak Singapura." Mr. George Peet, as one of the Editors of the Straits Times expressed his extensive interest in things Malayan through a widely read column signed Anak Singapura. Mr. Raja Singam takes the name of Munshi Abdullah, who is well known, especially because of his autobiography, and the author in this booklet endeavours to follow the Munshi method.

The book is really a scrap book made up from extracts taken from the speeches and writings of men who have specially identified themselves with the life and development of Malaya. The reader will find interesting selections from all manner of subjects, ranging from politics to botany, from travel to history. The book should be of interest to any English reading person, and we heartily recommend it to our school people and to all readers of this review. Copies can be obtained from any of the larger book stores for the price of $1.00. The entire proceeds will go in aid of the Malaya Patriotic Fund.

American Foreign Insurance Association

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*The American Insurance Co. Newark, N.J.	U.S. $ 30,732,823.42
Continental Insurance Co., New York, N.Y.	99,441,214.93
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Fire Association of Philadelphia, Pa.	23,463,843.19
Glens Falls Insurance Co., Glens Falls, N.Y.	19,378,812.70
Great American Insurance Co., New York, N.Y.	49,963,642.15
Hartford Fire Insurance Co., Hartford, Conn.	110,033,221.10
*The Home Insurance Company, New York, N.Y.	123,050,007.94
Phoenix Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn.	64,190,352.08
Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Co., Springfield, Mass.	35,005,894.67
*St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul, Minn.	43,680,712.06
United States Fire Insurance Co., New York, N.Y.	34,544,933.08
Westchester Fire Insurance Co., New York, N.Y.	18,007,269.21
Total.	U.S. $735,491,307.41

*These Companies write fire insurance business as well as marine insurance business in Malaya.

Local Managers: The Halifax Fire Insurance Co. of Halifax, Nova Scotia (Inc. in Canada)

General Agents: Confederation Life Association of Toronto (Inc. in Canada)

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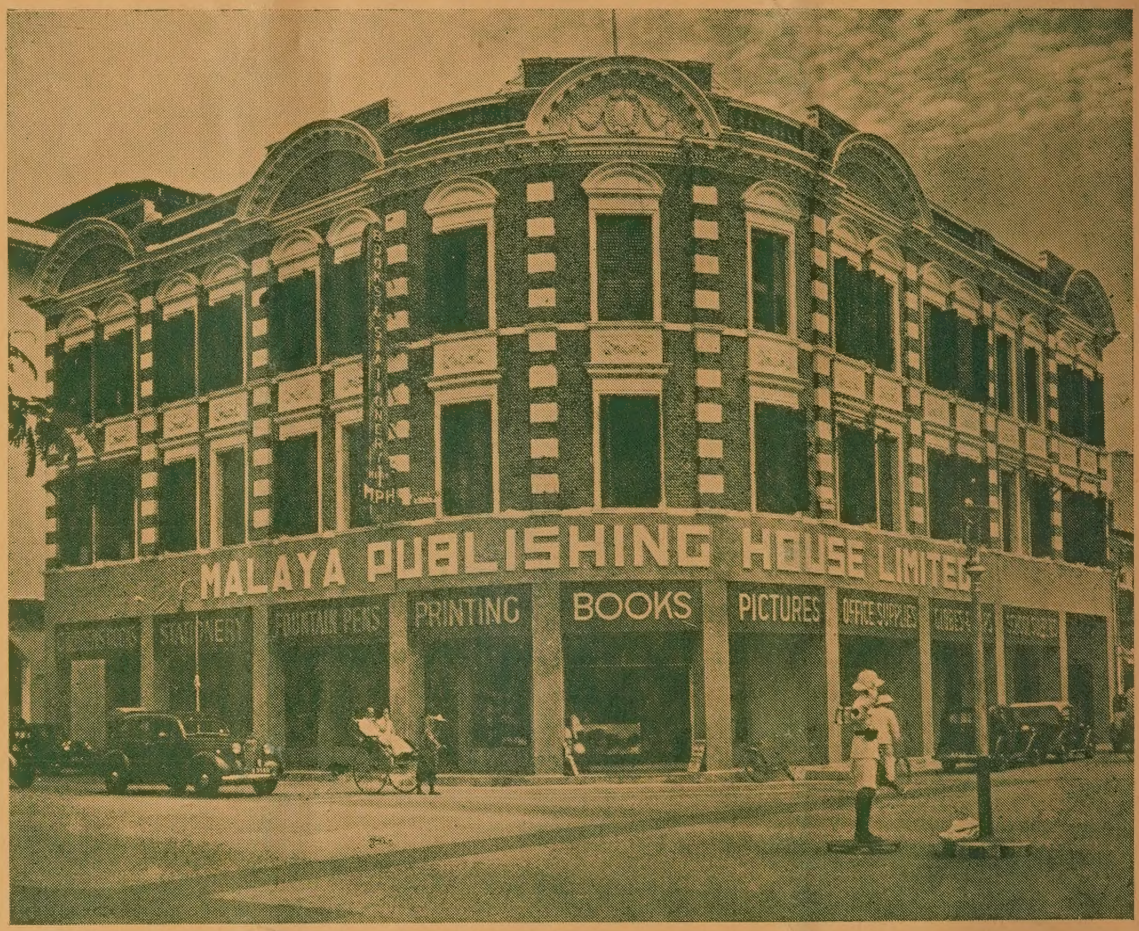
MILK AT IT'S BEST



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